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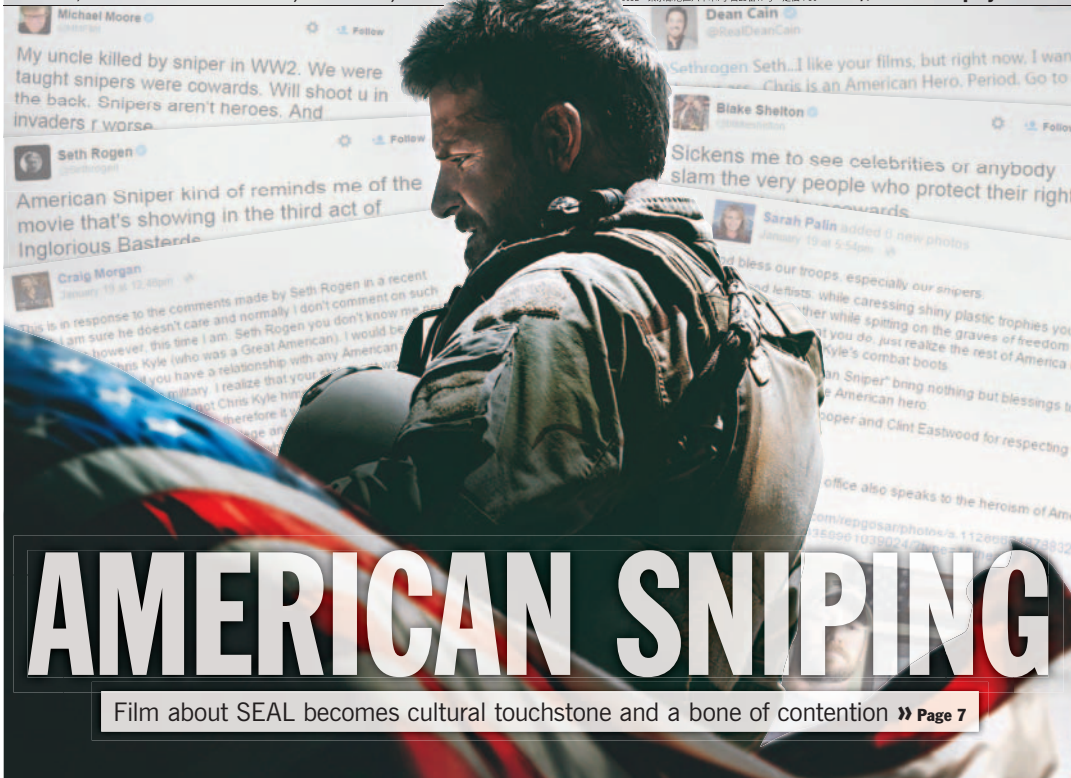
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Film about SEAL becomes cultural touchstone and a bone of contention » Page 7

## Obama calls for war authorization, touts military policy

By TRAVIS J. TRITTEN  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama used his State of the Union address Tuesday to again urge Congress to pass an authorization for war against the Islamic State.

The newest request from Obama comes more than five months after U.S. and allied forces began a concerted air campaign in Iraq and Syria to “degrade and ultimately defeat” Islamic State militants. So far, lawmakers

### STATE OF THE UNION

have approved billions of dollars to pay for the offensive and green-lighted an administration plan to train moderate Syrian rebels but have not weighed in with guidelines on how the war should be waged.

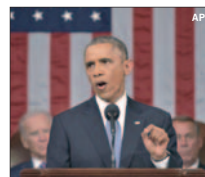
Obama made the request for an authorization, touted successes against Russia and urged the hiring of veterans during his sixth State of the Union speech, which called 2014 a

“breakthrough year for America” and focused heavily on reducing income inequality.

The president said the United States and the coalition are stopping the Islamic State’s advance but called for patience.

“It will require focus, but we will succeed,” Obama said. “And tonight, I call on this Congress to show the world that we are united in this mission by passing a resolution to authorize the use of force against ISIL. We need that authority.”

SEE OBAMA ON PAGE 6



President Barack Obama delivers his State of the Union address to Congress on Tuesday.

### WORLD

Yemen’s president reaches a deal with rebels to end standoff

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### NFL

League: Probe continues after report says 11 of Patriots’ 12 footballs were under-inflated

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### FACES

Julianne Moore’s fifth Oscar nod may be the charm

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Europe: Terrorism threat prompts increased security on US bases » Page 3

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

"This isn't a triumph for feminism. This is a triumph for prudishness."

— Model Laura Lacole, on a decision by the British tabloid *The Sun* to no longer carry photos of topless so-called "Page 3 girls."

See story on Page 18

## TOP CLICKS ON STRIPES.COM

The most popular stories on our website:

1. Obama calls for war authorization, touts military policy
2. New Hercules to take on heavy lifting across Pacific in 2017
3. WWII vet who escaped from Bataan Death March finally gets his Purple Heart
4. Supreme Court allows lawsuits over burn pits, elections
5. USS Two Jims, USS Fort McHenry move to Red Sea for possible Yemen evacuation

## COMING SOON



### Health

Hugs shown to be great therapy

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## MILITARY

# McCain to fight DOD spending cuts

By Travis J. Tritten  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Sen. John McCain opened the first Armed Services Committee meeting of the session as chairman Wednesday and fulfilled expectations by criticizing the Obama administration and warning about impending military budget cuts.

The Arizona Republican and new chairman called President Barack Obama's State of the Union comments about overseas military successes "wishful thinking" and asked foreign policy luminaries Brent Scowcroft and Zbigniew Brzezinski to testify about "mindless" caps on defense spending.

The GOP gained majority control in the Senate after November elections, putting McCain back in charge of the chamber's top military oversight committee, and fueling speculation that the senator would use the position to criticize the president and Defense Department priorities.

McCain said the president gave an overly upbeat assessment in Tuesday's speech of improving global security despite growing concerns over Russia, China and Islamic extremists in the Middle East and Africa.

"That news came as a surprise to anyone who has been paying at-



CLIFF OWEN/AP

**Zbigniew Brzezinski points at fellow former National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft as they testified before the Senate Armed Services Committee on Wednesday.**

tention to what has been happening around the world," he said.

Obama touted his foreign policy and military strategy abroad, saying that his administration's sanctions have left the Russian economy in tatters as punishment for meddling with Ukraine, and that its practice of backing foreign local forces in lieu of supplying ground forces is effectively combating terrorism.

Meanwhile, McCain and his party have begun an effort to lift budgetary spending limits that allow the DOD only a modest \$1.7 billion increase this year. Caps will remain in place into the next

decade and keep defense spending increases at about 2 percent.

"We are on track to cut \$1 trillion from defense budget by 2021" even as the world order unravels and U.S. security is imperiled, McCain said.

The Senate Armed Services Committee under McCain is planning more foreign policy hearings with high-profile intellectuals and former officials such as Wednesday's duo of Scowcroft, a retired lieutenant general who was national security adviser to President George H.W. Bush, and Brzezinski, national security adviser to President Jimmy Carter.

McCain opened the hearing Wednesday by asking Scowcroft and Brzezinski about the mandatory budget cuts, which are part of a larger agreement struck in Congress to reduce the federal deficit over the coming years. Other areas of the federal budget also face the caps.

"It is a terrible way to determine force structure, strategy or anything like it," Scowcroft said. "It is undermining our ability to do what we need to do to remain alert for the contingencies in the world."

The Senate hearing comes just a day after the new chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, Rep. Mac Thornberry, R-Texas, unveiled his plans this year to push back against the budget caps and plans by the White House and Pentagon to trim servicemember compensation and retire some weapons systems.

The Obama administration and the Defense Department are set to release budget proposals for the coming fiscal year in early February. The release is likely to set off an intense debate on Capitol Hill about shifting spending caps away from defense.

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## AF releases plan to cut costs, fix bureaucracy

By Amrita Jayakumar  
The Washington Post

Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James outlined a three-pronged program last week aimed at cutting costs, speeding the purchase of new technology and taking a data-based approach to improving the service's internal bureaucracy.

As part of the program titled "Bending the Cost Curve," the Air Force plans to create an information technology business analytics office to inform its buying decisions about software infrastructure, set up a \$2 million competition for new technology innovation and organize industry events where government officials can fast-track contracts

to companies that "wow" them, James said in a speech at the Atlantic Council, a Washington think tank.

The drawdown in Afghanistan and Iraq, and the subsequent pullback in federal spending, have made Pentagon officials increasingly concerned about the nation's ability to maintain its technological superiority. Several prominent military leaders have taken to the stump in recent months to urge contractors to be more innovative, warning that Russia, China and others are ramping up their investments.

Departing Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel announced a long-term plan last year that he dubbed the Defense Innovation Initiative, seeking to explore what cutting-

edge technologies and systems the military should invest in, such as 3-D printing, robotics and big data.

The Pentagon has begun writing its procurement rules to create more incentives for companies to conduct research and development. The Air Force's effort aims to complement that work.

For starters, the Air Force will perform a "cost-capability analysis" on four of its programs, including the T-X jet trainer, and the Air Force's follow-on to a space-based infrared system. The idea is to gather data about the benefits and trade-offs for a program and then tweak it to cut costs, James said. For example, if a new jet is required to fly at a certain speed, but the Air Force

learns through its data analysis and collaboration with industry that reducing the speed a little would save millions of dollars, it could use that knowledge to modify proposals, she said.

The Air Force also will set up an office to analyze which software systems it should buy and their potential effectiveness.

Finally, the service will organize a series of events where companies can show off products around a certain theme. If officials like what they see, they can use the special acquisition method to potentially award a contract "in a few weeks," she said. Eventually, the Air Force hopes to reduce the average time it takes to award a contract to less than 10 months.

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## EUROPE

## Attack spurs EUCOM to bolster security

By JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

U.S. military installations across Europe are increasing security in the wake of the recent terrorist attack in Paris and disrupted plots in Belgium, Germany and France, U.S. European Command said Wednesday.

"U.S. European Command directed its component commands to implement additional force-protection measures and random security enhancements at facilities across the EUCOM area of responsibility," said Navy Capt. Greg Hicks, EUCOM spokesman. "We continually assess threats to our forces with and alongside our host-nation counterparts and take

appropriate measures based on those assessments."

Hicks declined to elaborate on the specific steps being taken or to offer an assessment of the threat.

Typically, enhanced force-protection measures can vary from base to base. They can include such actions as more stringent inspections of cars entering installations, random bag checks and increased security patrols.

"We must be cognizant of the increased risk of counter demonstrations/revenge attacks," said a Jan. 15 advisory issued to the Army community in Germany, which also called for enhanced measures. "While the current focus may be situated around

events in France and Belgium, similar violence may occur within other countries in the USEAUR area of operations or worldwide."

Air Force wing commanders have also made security enhancements, said Capt. Sheryl Klinkel, a spokeswoman for U.S. Air Forces in Europe-U.S. Air Forces Africa. She said commanders have the authority to increase security measures at their installations on the basis of local conditions. Those can take the form of "random security measures to test a unit's ability," she said.

Some Defense Department schools on base are also taking steps to bolster security, such as Kaiserslautern High School,

where officials advised parents on Wednesday that security had been elevated to force protection "Bravo plus." Parents are advised to carry multiple forms of identification when picking up children, and the school has implemented other security measures, including random backpack checks.

"As a school system, we rely exclusively on commanders' assessment of threat conditions" and for adequate security to provide curricular and extracurricular programs, said Bob Puritman, a DODDS-Europe spokesman.

Force-protection bulletins have urged troops to remove from their cars any stickers or decals that identify them as servicemembers

or Americans. While that regulation has been in place for several years, some military communities are now keeping a closer watch to ensure the rules are followed.

The moves are the latest in a series of recent actions by U.S. European Command, which in November ordered all military personnel to refrain from wearing uniforms off base. That directive was part of an effort to lower the profiles of troops in the community. EUCOM also has urged personnel to be cautious about revealing too much information on social media sites.

Stars and Stripes reporter Jennifer Swan contributed to this report.  
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Joshua L. DeMott/Stars and Stripes

A German police vehicle is parked outside a police station Wednesday in Kaiserslautern, Germany.

## German police say checkpoints aren't targeting US drivers

By MARCUS KLOECKNER  
AND JENNIFER H. SVAN  
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — Despite the timing of random traffic checkpoints set up Wednesday around the Kaiserslautern and Baumholder military communities, German police officials said they were not targeting American drivers with expired state license.

The traffic stops began at various off-base locations Wednesday morning. That's about one week after U.S. military officials confirmed that some German states, including Rhineland-Palatinate, are enforcing what the military says is a new requirement that Americans have a current state driver's license as well as a U.S. Army Europe license to legally drive on German roads.

Despite the timing, officials with the police department in Kaiserslautern said the traffic stops were being conducted to meet annual requirements and to

train police cadets, and were not targeting Americans.

In Baumholder, deputy chief of police Herman-Josef Decker said, "We do not do special checks for Americans."

In the Kaiserslautern area, where at least four checkpoints were reported, including in downtown Weilerbach and near the Vogelweg and Pulaski military installations, a police spokeswoman said such traffic stops are a routine part of police business.

But if an American were stopped, he or she would be expected to have a valid state license as well as a USEAUR license, she said.

Traffic stops at various locations were expected to continue but police officials could not say on which days.

During a traffic stop, German police may ask to see documentation; check for the required safety triangle, vest and first aid kit; or assess whether a car's tires are adequate, among other checks.

Military officials on Wednesday advised Americans to take any citations received to their military police station and base legal office and to notify their chain of command.

Meantime, base officials at Ramstein Air Base confirmed that for Americans driving on base, a current USEAUR certificate of license and a valid ID are sufficient.

Last week, USEAUR officials warned personnel without a current state driver's license to avoid driving on public roads while the U.S. seeks to clarify with Germany what USEAUR says is a new policy governing driving rules in the country.

German law enforcement officials in the state of Rhineland-Palatinate have warned that violators could have their cars impounded or towed and could face fines or even confinement for repeat offenses.

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## Experts in AFN slaying trial say sailor was strangled

By MATT MILLHAM  
Stars and Stripes

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — American and German autopsies came to the same conclusion about the death of Dmitry Chepusov, the American sailor whose body was found in an automobile during a traffic stop in Kaiserslautern, Germany, in December 2013: He was strangled.

Dr. Matthias Kettner, a German forensic pathologist, and Dr. Dori Franco, an Army major and the military's regional medical examiner for Europe, both testified this week at the court-martial of Staff Sgt. Sean Oliver, the airman charged in Chepusov's death. They agreed that the sailor was likely manually strangled, meaning somebody used his hands to choke him to death.

Kettner, who said he has done between 1,500 and 2,000 autopsies in his career, said nothing he found contradicted or was inconsistent with that finding.

Franco, who conducted the second autopsy on Chepusov, said her findings essentially mirrored Kettner's, though she didn't have access to his report when she conducted her own examination.

Kettner removed tissue from Chepusov's neck that German authorities held on to for nine months before turning it over to Air Force investigators. Franco said she got to examine that neck tissue in September.

She said that after examining the tissue, which included cartilage, a small neck bone and other organs, she changed the conclusion of her autopsy from injuries to the throat and neck to "consistent with strangulation" to a simpler finding of "strangulation."

Oliver's defense questioned both examiners about the possibility that Chepusov might have died from a carotid sinus reflex, a reaction in which the heart stops in response to grabbing the neck.

Kettner and Franco both said they couldn't rule it out. Kettner said there are no studies of the reflex, since inducing it stops the heart and could kill potential test subjects, and that its existence is

largely theoretical.

However, Kettner said, citing the medical literature on the reflex, that it results from a momentary grabbing of the neck. Chepusov's injuries, which include damage to every neck muscle from the front of the neck to the spine, as well as fractures to cartilage and a bone in the throat, appear to be the result of significant force over a period of time, both pathologists testified.

Neither Franco nor Kettner could say how long he was strangled. Kettner said there's evidence in medical literature that suggests someone could die from strangulation in as little as a minute, but it can take much longer. Strangulation typically leads to unconsciousness in 10 to 15 seconds, Franco said. Kettner said strangulation generally takes longer when the victim is fighting back. Injuries to Chepusov's arms and wrists were indicative of defensive wounds, both pathologists testified.

Prosecutors, who have charged Oliver with premeditated murder, have alleged that he continued to choke Chepusov long after he lost consciousness in order to kill him.

Oliver, in a statement to Air Force investigators in December 2013, said that he choked Chepusov to knock him out after he became belligerent, but not to kill him. Oliver was killed over with Chepusov's body in the passenger seat of his car early in the morning of Dec. 14, 2013.

A paramedic who arrived on the scene testified Tuesday that medical personnel tried to get a tube down Chepusov's throat to perform rescue breathing, but they were unable to get his mouth open. Paramedic Frank Diekberdel said he didn't know why the mouth wouldn't open, but "mechanically, it was just not possible."

Franco and Kettner both testified it was possible that was a sign of rigor mortis. The jaw is one of the first muscles to freeze up, Kettner said. But knowing that doesn't necessarily provide any insight into exactly when Chepusov died, both Kettner and Franco said.

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# Congressmen blast VA over construction debacles

By **HEATH DRUZIN**  
Stars and Stripes

In the latest black eye for the Department of Veterans Affairs, congressmen grilled officials Wednesday over construction mismanagement that has cost hundreds of millions of dollars in overruns and delayed major projects by years.

"It's long past time for these projects, marred by bureaucratic ineptitude, to be complete," House Committee on Veterans Affairs Chairman Rep. Jeff Miller, R-Fla., said during a hearing on VA construction problems.

The hearing was prompted by several recent flaps over major projects, including a new VA medical center in the Denver suburb of Aurora, Colo., where a contractor walked off the project after major delays and huge cost overruns. A recent Government Accountability Office report found that, on average, the largest VA projects

were three years late and \$376 million over budget.

Speaking in front of the committee, Deputy VA Secretary Sloan Gibson said the department is overhauling the way they do construction and that "veterans and taxpayers are right to expect more and they deserve much better from the VA."

"The situation in Denver is unacceptable and I apologize," he said.

The Colorado medical center, expected to cost \$328 million and serve nearly 400,000 veterans, could end up costing more than \$1 billion—more than the sprawling, heavily fortified U.S. Embassy in Baghdad. After the project's contractor, Kiewit-Turner, walked off the job two weeks ago, the VA had to negotiate with the company to get it to return. The Army Corps of Engineers assumed oversight of the project.

Gibson said Congress will likely need to authorize hundreds of millions more before June

to keep construction going.

"This is a FUBAR on steroids if I've ever seen one. ... I feel like I'm in the Twilight Zone when I listen to this," Rep. Phil Roe, R-Tenn., said, using a military slang acronym that includes an obscenity. "I'm not sure the VA should ever build a hospital."

Gibson agreed that the Colorado situation was "embarrassing" and said everything is on the table, including getting out of the construction business.

"It may well be that the best outcome for veterans and taxpayers is we turn to the Corps and say, 'Corps, you build our hospitals,' he said.

The Colorado facility is one of several huge projects that have faced serious problems. A VA medical center in Las Vegas expected to cost \$325 million could now cost nearly \$600 million and be completed seven years late. A center in Orlando, Fla., is expected to be completed nearly five years late

—and 10 years after construction began — at 2.5 times the original cost estimate.

Earlier this month a federal judge ordered a halt to construction on a project in Los Angeles, planned as an amphitheater to host alternative therapy sessions for veterans and their families after he ruled it was being built on "contested property."

Gibson laid out an eight-point plan to improve VA construction management, which aims to strengthen project planning and oversight, including mandatory pre-construction reviews by a private firm.

"This does not excuse our failure to have these measures in place years ago, but it does mean that — as they are relevant to particular phases of construction — these and other measures are being applied now to our 53 ongoing major projects," he said.

That wasn't enough for some on

the committee, who asked why the changes had taken so long when VA's construction practices have been under scrutiny for years. VA officials testified in front of the same committee less than a year ago, saying they had reformed construction practices.

"Why ignore repeated warnings of VA mismanagement?" Rep. Mike Coffman, R-Colo., asked.

Gibson, who took his post after most of the problems had surfaced, said the department is committed to holding accountable those responsible for the debacles.

"The project executive and contractor officer [for Aurora] were removed from those particular positions. A more complete look at what happened in Denver will be looked at by the [VA inspector general]," he said. "The issue is being able to document the individual accountability with evidence."

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## Bill to overhaul veterans suicide prevention programs moves forward in Senate

By **TRAVIS J. TRITTEN**  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A bill to overhaul veteran suicide prevention efforts took another step forward in Congress on Wednesday.

The Clay Hunt SAV Act, named after a Marine vet who committed suicide in 2011, was passed by the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee

and now must pass a vote in the full Senate to become law. The House overwhelmingly passed the bill with 403 votes earlier this month.

The bill calls for a one-stop Department of Veterans Affairs website with suicide prevention resources for veterans, incentives for more psychiatrists and a review of current programs.

"When you have 8,000 veter-

ans a year committing suicide — which is more veterans than have died in all of Iraq and all of Afghanistan since we've been fighting — then you have a serious problem, and this is emergency legislation that we need to pass to help our veterans," Sen. Johnny Isakson, R-Ga., who became the new committee chairman this month, said in a news release.

Veteran groups and Hunt's parents have backed the measure since it was first introduced last year. Hunt served in Iraq and Afghanistan and struggled with post-traumatic stress disorder, becoming one of the 22 veterans who commit suicide each day.

Despite widespread support among lawmakers, the bill failed in the last congressional session

because retiring budget hawk Tom Coburn, of Oklahoma, blocked a final vote in the Senate.

Members of each chamber quickly revived the bill. Isakson said he hopes Senate leadership will take up the bill quickly for a final floor vote and send it to the White House for signature.

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## MILITARY

# Purple Heart awarded 70 years late

## Former soldier and airman survived Bataan Death March, served in Korea

By JON HARPER  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Former soldier and airman Jesse Baltazar received the Purple Heart on Tuesday, more than 70 years after he was wounded in action in the Philippines and forced to participate in the infamous Bataan Death March.

Baltazar joined the U.S. Armed Forces Far East in 1941 after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor and threatened to invade his native Philippines. The Philippines was a U.S. territory at the time.

"The war broke out and ... they needed men," Baltazar told reporters when asked why he chose to join the U.S. military.

Baltazar "answered the call to arms when the homeland was attacked," Army chief of staff Gen. Ray Odierno told attendees at the award ceremony at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Va.

Baltazar, a member of the Army's 71st Battalion, was wounded in the leg by shrapnel when Japanese planes bombed his camp on March 15, 1942. Because facilities and supplies were limited, he had to undergo surgery in the jungle,

with little anesthesia.

A few weeks later, U.S. and Filipino troops on the Bataan Peninsula were forced to surrender when the Japanese took over the Philippines after months of fighting.

The Imperial Japanese Army forced their prisoners to march 60 miles. The POWs were subjected to physical abuse and disease, and many died. That event became known as the Bataan Death March.

Still recovering from his wounds, Baltazar was forced to use a bamboo stick as a cane when the march began. Three days into the ordeal, he managed to escape, hiding on a fishing boat until he was able to return home.

Baltazar later joined the Filipino resistance movement, which waged a guerrilla war against Japanese troops until American forces returned to liberate the islands in late 1944.

Despite being wounded in action, Baltazar was not awarded the Purple Heart at the time because the Army lost some of his records. Over the past two years, his family and other supporters helped him reconstitute his records and

campaign for him to receive the medal. Secretary of State John Kerry, a Vietnam veteran, lent his weight to the effort, according to Baltazar.

"This award is 70 years overdue," Odierno said. "It's important for all of us who have worn the uniform of the United States Army [to] ensure that those who have earned awards through their service be recognized, especially those who have served with distinction and sacrificed selflessly for this great nation of ours."

Baltazar's wife and five children were on hand to see him finally get the recognition he earned.

"We have heard these stories of how he was wounded since we were little children," Baltazar's son, Thomas, told reporters. "And really the question came up a couple years ago [when Jesse Baltazar was writing a book about his service]: Where's the Purple Heart?"

"And through a series of events we come to this day, and it's fantastic for our family."

Jesse Baltazar expressed gratitude for receiving the recognition.

"I'm very grateful that finally

I got it, and that all the members of my family were here today to witness it," he told reporters. "I'm sure they'll never forget it, and they can pass [the story and the medal] on to the next generation."

Baltazar's career in public service didn't end after World War II. After he was discharged from the Army, he moved to the United States and received an Air Force commission in 1948, becoming the first native-born Filipino to join that service.

He served in the Korean War as part of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations and later retired at the rank of major.

After he left the military, Baltazar joined the State Department, and served as a deputy provincial adviser in Vietnam from 1966 to 1970.

He retired from the State Department in 1988, but later returned as a contractor.

"It's a story of valor and courage. A story of an America patriot, soldier, airman and diplomat," Odierno said when reflecting on Baltazar's decades of public service.

Thomas Baltazar, 57, followed in his father's footsteps, and



JON HARPER/Stars and Stripes

**World War II veteran Jesse Baltazar wears the Purple Heart after an award at ceremony at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Va.**

served in the U.S. Army for 26 years before retiring at the rank of colonel.

"He's my role model," the younger Baltazar said. "We are all about service [in my family], and it's because of [Jesse]."

Jesse Baltazar, 94, was asked the secret to his longevity.

"Eat a lot of vegetables," he joked.

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## NATION

# State of Obama-GOP union is unchanged

By DAVID ESPO  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama says it's time to turn the page after years of economic hardship at home and wars overseas. But Republicans in charge of Congress say the voters already took care of that last November — and they're the proof.

"Much of what he did tonight ... new taxes, new spending is sort of the same old thing that we've heard over the last six years," said newly installed Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, of Kentucky, not long after the president wrapped up a State of the Union speech studded with veto threats and challenges to newly empowered congressional Republicans.

"What I had hoped was the president was going to focus on areas of possible agreement. There are a few: trade, tax reform, infrastructure," said McConnell, who was on the receiving end of a presidential barb about climate change.

House Speaker John Boehner, McConnell's partner atop the leadership of the new, Republican-controlled Congress, agreed. "Finding common ground is what the American people sent us here to do, but you wouldn't know it from the president's speech tonight," he said.

The two Republican leaders spoke after Obama declared the "shadow of crisis has passed," with the economy growing and joblessness falling. He unfurled an agenda on taxes, spending, social programs, energy and foreign policy notably at odds with Republican priorities, although he ended with a plea for the two parties to "debate without denouncing one another" and find compromise where possible.

The speech was the sixth State of the Union address of Obama's presidency, and the first with Republicans holding majorities in both houses of Congress.

That produced a split-screen sort of response in which Democrats seated on one side of the House chamber repeatedly rose to their feet and applauded the president, while Republicans who intend to vote down his proposals sat silently. When Obama promised to send Congress a budget "filled



President Barack Obama shakes hands with Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel as Attorney General Eric Holder watches after Obama delivered the State of the Union address on Tuesday at the U.S. Capitol in Washington.

with ideas that are practical, not partisan," a disbelieving snicker swept through the rows of Republicans.

Boehner wasn't the only Republican who said Obama had not taken the results of last fall's election to heart. "We're not going to raise taxes. He knows we're not going to raise taxes. So I'm kind of surprised he paid lip service to that," said Wisconsin Rep. Paul Ryan, the chairman of the tax-writing House Ways and Means Committee.

The centerpiece of Obama's economic proposals was an increase in the capital gains rate on couples making more than \$500,000 annually, to 28 percent, coupled with higher taxes on some estates and a fee on the roughly 100 U.S. financial firms with assets of more than \$50 billion.

Much of the \$320 billion that would be raised would be ticketed for the middle class, in the form of a \$500 tax credit for some families with two working spouses, expansion of the child care tax credit and a \$60 billion program to make community college free.

For that, Obama drew condemnation from Senate Republicans.

"Calling for expanding the death tax and raising the rates on capital gains, like the president did tonight, makes clear this White House is more about redistribution and populist class warfare than about actual bipartisan tax reform," said Sen. Orrin Hatch, the Utah Republican who chairs the Senate Finance Committee and will have a key role in negotiations on any tax overhaul legislation in the next two years.

## New senator delivers GOP speech reply

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The new Republican Congress understands Americans' suffering from the economy, health care system and Washington gridlock and will steer the country away from President Barack Obama's failed policies, a newly minted GOP senator is promising.

Making calls for bipartisanship with a flexing of GOP muscle, freshman Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, called on Obama on Tuesday night to cooperate with Republicans to simplify the tax code by lowering rates and eliminating unspecified loopholes. In the party's official response to Obama's State of the Union message,

Ernst also called for an easing of trade barriers with Europe and Asia. And she listed a parade of looming clashes with the president, including GOP efforts to force construction of the Keystone XL oil pipeline, balance the budget without raising taxes and restrict abortions.

"Americans have been hurting, but when we demanded solutions, too often Washington responded with the same stale mindset that led to failed policies like Obamacare," Ernst said, referring to the Obama health care overhaul that Republicans loathe. "It's a mindset that gave us political talking points, not serious solutions."

The speech made no mention of immigration, an issue dividing Congress as Republicans work to overturn Obama's executive actions extending deportation protections to millions.



Ernst

## Obama: President cites 'costly lessons,' defends current war strategy

### FROM FRONT PAGE

The White House maintained after the start of operations in Iraq and Syria in August that the war could be waged without approval from Congress by relying on earlier war authorizations passed in 2001 and 2002 to fight al-Qaida and Saddam Hussein.

The president appeared to change course in November after Democrats lost in the midterm elections and said he would welcome an updated authorization. The White House and lawmakers have been at odds over whether the process should begin with a formal detailed request from the president.

### Foreign, military policy

Obama said Tuesday night that the U.S. has learned "costly lessons" in the wars launched after 9/11. But he said the current military strategy of avoiding a new ground war against the Islamic

State through steady bombing and a proxy army is succeeding.

"Instead of getting dragged into another ground war in the Middle East, we are leading a broad coalition, including Arab nations, to degrade and ultimately destroy this terrorist group," he said. "We're also supporting a moderate opposition in Syria that can help us in this effort, and assisting people everywhere who stand up to the bankrupt ideology of violent extremism."

The U.S. is using similar strategies of partnering with countries around the world "from South Asia to North Africa" and backing local forces against terrorists instead of sending large combat forces abroad, Obama said.

"Instead of Americans patrolling the valleys of Afghanistan, we've trained their security forces, who've now taken the lead, and we've honored our troops' sacrifice by supporting that country's first democratic transition," he said.

The administration's economic policies are also winning the struggle with Russia, which last year annexed Crimea and helped fuel a civil war in neighboring Ukraine under President Vladimir Putin, Obama said.

"Last year, as we were doing the hard work of imposing sanctions along with our allies ... Mr. Putin's aggression, it was suggested, was a masterful display of strategy and strength," he said. "Well, today, it is America that stands strong and united with our allies, while Russia is isolated, with its economy in tatters."

### Veterans

In the days leading up to the speech, veterans groups said they were hoping to hear the president speak on health care improvements. Obama said the country is working to ensure vets have access to the highest quality care and also gave a nod to veteran employment.

"Already, we've made strides towards ensuring that every veteran has access to the highest quality care," he said. "We're slashing the backlog that had too many veterans waiting years to get the benefits they need, and we're making it easier for vets to translate their training and experience into civilian jobs."

The president made a passing reference to the troubles at the Department of Veterans Affairs national system of hospitals and

clinics and a massive overhaul bill he signed in August.

He also mentioned that an initiative called Joining Forces headed by first lady Michelle Obama and Jill Biden helped almost 700,000 vets and military spouses find jobs.

"So to every CEO in America, let me repeat: If you want somebody who's going to get the job done, hire a veteran," he said.

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MILITARY

# 'American Sniper' comes under fire

War film decried as propaganda by some, praised as veterans' paean by others

The Washington Post

The makers of "American Sniper" said they wanted the movie to be a thoughtful character study of the most lethal military sniper in U.S. history.

But the movie — which shattered box-office records over the holiday weekend with \$105 million in sales — has also inflamed the debate over America's controversial wars, with one side decrying it as jingoistic propaganda and another defending it just as fiercely as a paean to the country's underappreciated veterans.

In West Los Angeles, a billboard for the film was vandalized over the weekend with the word "Murder!" written in red spray paint.

Michael Moore and Seth Rogen took to social media to air their thoughts, though they both later backtracked. Director Moore appeared to slam the glorification of sniper Chris Kyle in the film, writing on Twitter: "My uncle killed by sniper in WW2. We were taught snipers were cowards. Will shoot u in the back. Snipers are not heroes."

Rogen compared the movie to a Nazi propaganda movie that appears at the end of Quentin Tarantino's "Inglourious Basterds."

The backlash — from politicians, veterans and other celebrities — was swift.

"They aren't attacking a conservative right of America. They are going after the fabric of America at a time when it is celebrating a hero and when the country needs a hero," author and former Navy SEAL sniper instructor Brandon Webb said in an interview.

Country singer and veteran Craig Morgan wrote to Seth Rogen on Facebook: "I'm sick and tired of people like you running your mouth when you have no idea what it takes for this country to maintain our freedoms. If you and anyone like you don't like it, leave."

Sarah Palin wrote on Facebook: "God bless our troops, especially our snipers."

The exchanges became the latest flashpoint to emerge from the country's divergent assessments of its 13-year military engagement overseas. The movie stirred up a host of questions surrounding the way we treat veterans, whether the wars were worth the immense sacrifice, and how to judge actions taken by soldiers in the heat of battle.

The debate also hints at another Gulf in American politics: the plummeting number of Americans who serve in the armed services. Military analysts said that has given rise to a widening cultural divide between civilians and combat veterans. Today, about 0.5 percent of Americans serve in the military, a smaller share than at any other time since World War II.



Warner Bros. Pictures

Bradley Cooper plays U.S. Navy SEAL sniper Chris Kyle in "American Sniper."

**'The movie has become more a film that people want to see because they want to be part of the national conversation around it.'**

Phil Contrino  
BoxOffice.com movie analyst

But the movie's popularity transcended those differences, said Dan Fellman, head of distribution for Warner Brothers, which released the movie.

"Red state, blue state, small town or big city, across the board the film broke records everywhere and resonated with all audiences," said Fellman. "Every once in a while, a movie comes along that reaches the core of movie-goers, that resonates emotionally to all audiences."

The controversy surrounding the film wasn't the key to "American Sniper's" initial success, but the heated conversation around it has created a powerful swirl of interest.

"The movie has become more a film that people want to see because they want to be part of the national conversation around it," said Phil Contrino, a movie analyst at BoxOffice.com.

Twitter said discussion around the film was more than double the volume of the average for films. The hashtag "#liberalwarmovies" was one of the highest-trending topics of Tuesday, with conservatives mocking left-leaning critics of the movie for being out of touch with and insensitive to the sacrifices of military. Facebook data showed the film sparked the most active conversations in traditional red states such as West Virginia, Wyoming, Kentucky and Oklahoma.

"American Sniper," directed by Clint Eastwood and starring Bradley Cooper, was based on the memoir of U.S. Navy SEAL Chris Kyle and his four tours in Iraq between 2003 and 2009.

Kyle was no ordinary soldier. Before he was shot to death at a Texas gun range in 2013, Kyle claimed he killed at least 150 people while working as a sniper in Iraq. He oozed conviction and charisma. He wore big boots. He spoke with a languid Texas drawl. He wrote a best-selling memoir: He made millions.

And then there were the tales Kyle told about himself, which came under increasing suspicion after numerous journalists tried — and failed — to corroborate them. Among them: Kyle once said he shot dead two armed Texas thugs who wanted to steal his truck. He said he traveled down to New Orleans and killed 30 bad guys in the chaos following Hurricane Katrina. And he also falsely claimed he punched out former Minnesota governor Jesse "the Body" Ven-

tura after Ventura, a former member of a U.S. Navy Underwater Demolition Team, disparaged the Navy SEALs.

"There were a lot of things he told people that are really unrefractable," journalist Michael Mooney, who wrote a book on Kyle, told The Washington Post in July.

A war movie for a nation weary from years of conflict, "American Sniper" wasn't supposed to be a massive hit. It was only expected to generate \$60 million in revenue in its first weekend of wide release.

But a combination of Warner Brothers' shrewd marketing campaign, the impeccable timing of the release just days after it received several Oscar nominations and a torrent of social-media recommendations gave it a bigger opening than "The Hobbit" or "Avatar."

Many critics have hailed the film for its rich and humanizing portrayal of a soldier at war. The movie was nominated for six Oscars, including best film and best leading actor.

Since their initial remarks, Moore and Rogen have said their comments were taken out of context. Moore said it wasn't directly referring to the film in his comments about snipers.

Rogen said he actually liked the film and wrote a new tweet on Monday saying he wasn't directly comparing "American Sniper" with the propaganda movie in "Inglourious Basterds." "Big difference between comparing and reminding me of oranges. Can't compare them, though."

Actor Cooper has also tried to calm the debate, saying the film wasn't intended to be political but a human story about a soldier's life and internal struggles.

"It's a movie about a man — a character study. We hope that you can have your eyes opened to the struggle of the soldier rather than the specifics of the war," Cooper said at a press conference last week in New York.

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## WAR ON TERRORISM

# Japan 'fighting against time' to free hostages

The Associated Press

**TOKYO** — Japan is doing all it can to free two hostages the Islamic State group is threatening to kill unless it receives \$200 million, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said Wednesday, vowing never to give in to terrorism.

Abe returned to Tokyo from a six-day Middle East tour slightly ahead of schedule and convened a Cabinet meeting soon after.

"We are fighting against time, and we'll make an all-out effort and use every diplomatic route that we have developed to win the release of the two," he said.

Abe said he was consulting with leaders in the region. A convoy carrying Japanese Vice-Foreign Minister Yasuhide Nakayama left the embassy in Jordan's capital, Amman, on Wednesday for an unknown location in the city. He was dispatched from Abe's Middle East entourage to handle the situation.

The Islamic State group demanded the \$200 million ransom in a video posted online Tuesday that showed a knife-brandishing masked militant standing over the kneeling captives. It gave a deadline of 72 hours, which was the video's release time suggests would come sometime Friday.

Abe and other Japanese officials have not said directly whether Japan will pay ransom for the captives, freelance journalist Kenji Goto, 47, and Haruna Yukawa, 42, the founder of a private security company.

Government spokesman Yoshihide Suga confirmed Japan believes the threat is authentic.

"Japan's aim is not to kill the Muslim people, as the militant group claims it to be," Suga said. "We strongly urge them not to



SHIZUO KAMAYASHI/AP

**Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe greets journalists in Tokyo on Wednesday upon returning from his six-day Middle East tour.**

harm the two Japanese and release them immediately."

Abe has limited choices, among them to openly pay the extremists or ask an ally such as the United States to attempt a risky rescue inside Syria. Japan's military operates only in a self-defense capacity at home.

But officials are adamant that Japan will continue to provide nonmilitary aid to the region. "We will never give in to terrorism," Abe said.

In past international hostage situations involving Japanese captives, at least one has been killed while most have been released. It is unclear how many times Japan paid ransom. The only confirmed case was in Kyrgyzstan in 1999.

Japanese media reported Wednesday, citing unnamed officials, that Goto's wife received an email on her mobile phone in December demanding a ransom of more than \$17 million.

She exchanged several emails with the unknown person, whose email address was similar to one used by the Islamic State group, the Kyodo News service and other media reported.

Securing the hostages' release will be hard, "because all Japanese diplomats left Syria as the civil war escalated," Tsutomu Ishiai, foreign news editor for the major newspaper Asahi Shimbun, said in a commentary. "Japan is in an extremely difficult situation. It needs to find a way to save the hostages by getting in touch with religious leaders and local heavyweights who are in a position to make contact with the extremists."

Shuji Hosaka, a senior research fellow at Japan's Institute of Energy Economics in Tokyo, said he did not believe the Islamic State group was specifically targeting Japanese when Goto and Yukawa were captured.

## Response to militants limited by constitution

By ERIK SLAVIN  
Stars and Stripes

**YOKOHAMA, Japan** — Japan may one day be able to mount a rescue attempt for hostages like the two men captured and held ransom by the Islamic State militants but its current laws and capabilities leave no room for a homegrown military operation.

Shortly after his party swept into power in December 2012, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe prioritized reinterpreting Japan's 1947 constitution in a way that would allow the country to take limited action overseas and defend close allies in combat.

Abe's vision of "collective self-defense" and his method of reinterpreting — rather than amending — Japan's pacifist constitution, drew deep public opposition amid concerns that an ever-broadening criteria could draw Japan into foreign wars. However, the concept would allow rescues of Japanese hostages, assuming Japanese Self-Defense Forces troops train for such high-risk missions and were able to acquire the logistical and intelligence help necessary for success.

This week, Islamic State militants released a video of two Japanese men being held by the terrorist group. A militant in the video says the two men will be executed in 72 hours unless Japan pays \$200 million.

Speaking at a news conference in Jerusalem on Tuesday, Abe con-

demned the attacks. But even if he wanted to, he couldn't order a military operation to attempt a rescue.

If ending the ban on collective self-defense were just about rescues, there would be far less controversy.

A 2013 Kyodo News poll showed 70 percent approval for aiding Japanese hostages. That same year, 10 Japanese were among 36 people taken hostage and killed by militants at a natural gas plant in Algeria.

A Cabinet resolution in 2014 made the government's opinions on ending the ban clear but left the laws authorizing overseas actions unauthorized. National security laws are slated to be debated in the Diet this year; several Japanese media sources suggest that won't happen until after a round of local elections this spring.

So far now, Japan will have to rely on its allies if it chooses to pursue a military option.

Yuichi Hosoya, a member of a panel that made recommendations to Abe on how to implement collective self-defense, explained Japan's legal constraints this way in 2013.

"There is no separate rule of engagement for the JSDF overseas. The penal code will be applicable to an act by a member of the JSDF, if and when he or she shoots the terrorist outside Japan, as if he or she had shot down a Japanese citizen in Japan."

slavin.erik@stripes.com

## Canadian special forces soldiers directing airstrikes in Iraq

The Associated Press

**TORONTO** — Canadian special forces in northern Iraq have been helping Kurdish peshmarga fighters by directing coalition airstrikes against Islamic State extremists — work generally considered risky because it means they are close to the battle against the group.

The Canadians' efforts complement those of the United States, which has conducted the vast majority of the airstrikes against the Islamic State group. But in their new role, the Canadians are performing a task that so far the U.S. has been unwilling to do.

Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has repeatedly said the U.S. would consider directing attacks from the ground but that it has not done so.

Brig. Gen. Mike Rouleau, the commander of Canadian special forces, said his soldiers have directed 13 strikes.

Canada has 69 special forces soldiers in Iraq in what the Canadian government has called an advising and training role. Rouleau said they do about 80 percent of their training and advising well behind the front lines and about 20 percent right at the front lines.

In what was apparently the first ground firefight between Western troops and the Islamic State group, Canadian soldiers engaged in a gunbattle with militants after coming under a mortar and machine-gun attack while at the front lines conducting training over the last week. Rouleau said Monday that Canadian sniper fire "neutralized" the machine gun and mortar

without taking any casualties in what he called an act of self-defense. Two senior officials with the coalition said clashes took place in Kurdish territory near the Mosul Dam. The troops were not directing airstrikes at the time, Rouleau said.

Rouleau said that directing airstrikes does not mean Canada has escalated its mission. He said his troops are doing it because the Iraqis cannot, which has the added benefit of giving commanders confidence that the targets are legitimate.

Canadian Lt. Gen. Jonathan Vance said it's not clear how long it will be before Iraqi forces are able to call in coalition airstrikes against the Islamic State group without Canada's help. Vance said he wasn't sure when that specialized training will be provided, but he expects that "down the road

the Iraqi air force and army will be able to bring in and guide" airstrikes.

When asked whether directing airstrikes would be considered combat and whether Canadian soldiers are doing more than U.S. soldiers in directing airstrikes, Julie Di Mambro, a spokeswoman for Canada's defense minister, said the "international jihadist movement has declared war on Canada and its Allies. We must confront this threat head on, which is exactly what this government is doing. While I can't speak for the activities of other countries, I will say that we are tremendously proud of the great work that our Canadian Armed Forces are doing fighting the terrorist threat from (the Islamic State group) in Iraq and we stand 100 percent behind them."

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## NATION



Demonstrators gather in front of Albuquerque, N.M., police headquarters last week to protest the fatal Jan. 13 police shooting of a suspect who police say was armed and dressed in body armor.

## Justice Department, Albuquerque, NM, select monitor to oversee police force

The Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — After weeks of negotiations, the Justice Department announced Tuesday that federal officials and the city of Albuquerque have agreed on an independent monitor to oversee the city's troubled police force.

James R. Ginger, an expert on police reform, will lead a team to monitor a settlement agreement to overhaul the Albuquerque Police Department, federal officials said.

The police department, serving a city of about 560,000 people, has faced scrutiny for more than 40 police shootings — 28 of them fatal — since 2010. The fatal shooting of a homeless man in March sparked protests around the city after video footage appeared to show the man surrendering during a standoff.

Ginger and his team will be responsible for independently assessing progress on the agreement and will report on changes to a federal judge. They will have access to documents, personnel, facilities and other information related to the settlement and

will engage with officers and community members, federal officials said.

Ginger has served as an independent monitor over a consent decree obtained by the Justice Department in Pittsburgh. He also was a monitor over a consent decree involving the New Jersey State Police.

"Dr. Ginger's proven success with police departments and criminal justice systems in the United States will assist in promoting compliance with critical structural and systemic reforms that are necessary to restoring public confidence and achieving effective and constitutional policing in Albuquerque," Damon Martinez, U.S. attorney for the District of New Mexico, said in a statement.

The Justice Department and Albuquerque officials signed the agreement last year after a federal report faulted Albuquerque police over excessive force.

The reform blueprint calls for new training and protocols for investigating officer shootings.

It also calls for the agency to dismantle some troubled units.

## Few file in Ferguson municipal elections

Interest falls short despite calls for change

The Associated Press

FERGUSON, Mo. — Ferguson's first municipal election since a fatal police shooting sparked months of protests and exposed the city's deep racial divide drew relatively little interest from prospective candidates as Tuesday's filing deadline passed.

Three of the St. Louis suburb's six city council seats are up for election on April 7 and none of the three incumbents decided to seek re-election. Three of the eight residents who did declare as candidates waited until hours before Tuesday's late afternoon filing deadline.

Ferguson was roiled by sometimes violent protests after Michael Brown, 18, who was black and unarmed, was shot to death by Ferguson officer Darren Wilson, who is white, in August. A St. Louis County grand jury declined in November to indict Wilson, who left the force two days later.

At the time of the shooting, just three of 53 police officers were black in a city with a black population of nearly 70 percent. All but one of the six council members are white, as is Mayor James Knowles, who resisted calls for his own resignation and said he plans to seek a third term as mayor in 2017.

"The council can still be responsive to the city without the customary 'heads have to roll' response," Knowles said. "If that's

what the citizens of Ferguson demanded, there would be at least one person running under the banner of, 'They all have to go.' And that's just not happened."

Knowles said that two of three incumbents who are stepping down decided long before Brown's death not to seek three more years in office, primarily due to work obligations.

Activists who initially sought to oust Ferguson elected leaders and Police Chief Tom Jackman, who also remains on the job, said many residents remain disillusioned with local politics. Others believe the most effective way to push for new laws and policy changes on issues such as police conduct and voting district boundaries is to agitate from outside rather than to negotiate from within, said protest leader Ashley Yates, co-founder of Millennial Activists United.

"It's more about building power within our own community," she said. "Ferguson really gave us an idea of what the city council's powers are — it's not much. And there's a realization that the system has failed black America at large. So why operate in a system that does not work?"

Like many small cities, Ferguson relies on a professional administrator, its city manager, for most day-to-day governing decisions. Elected officials typically focus on items such as spending priorities and budget approvals.

## Police: Fitness model, former Army Ranger killed by train was filming video on tracks

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A fitness model and actor who was killed when he was hit by a train was running on the tracks ahead of the train while filming a promotional video for his website, police said Tuesday.

Detectives have reviewed video from a camera atop the Metrolink commuter train that shows George Gregory Plitt Jr., 37, running between the rails Saturday, Burbank police Officer Joshua Kendrick said.

"The conductor can see somebody on the tracks a distance away," Kendrick said. The conductor was braking and using the horn, "and for one reason or another, unfortunately, Mr. Plitt did not get off the tracks."

The train eventually struck Plitt, and he left the view of



Plitt

the camera, Kendrick said.

He said detectives were trying to get another video filmed by friends of Plitt from a different angle.

Friends

initially said Plitt had misjudged the situation and tripped and fell before he was hit by the train.

"It was just a freaky moment where something got out of control," said Warren Coulter, who had been friends for 15 years with Plitt, who went by "Greg."

Plitt, among the more recognizable faces and physiques in the fitness industry, was shooting a video for his website with two crewmem-

bers when he was hit by the train.

Coulter said Plitt was a West Point graduate and Army Ranger who had jumped out of planes more than 1,000 times in his life and had a taste for the extreme but also treated everyone and everything with respect and care as befitting his military past.

Plitt, a native of Baltimore who settled in Los Angeles more than 10 years ago, appeared on more than 200 magazine covers, Bravo's reality television shows "Work Out" and "Friends to Lovers," and NBC's daytime soap opera "Days of Our Lives," according to his website.

A motivational video on the website shows Plitt working out on the tracks as a Metrolink train passes by, and a workout video shows him straddling train tracks in a pushup position with an arm on either rail.



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NATION

# Police: Overpass collapse could've killed many

The Associated Press

**CINCINNATI** — Part of a Cincinnati interstate was open again to traffic Wednesday as an investigation continued into the deadly overpass accident that killed a worker and injured a truck driver.

The removal of tons of debris from Interstate 75 began Tuesday afternoon and was completed by nighttime, allowing the closed

southbound lanes to reopen to traffic. The state Department of Transportation says minor repairs were made.

Transportation officials said heavy equipment was being used to separate a concrete deck from structural steel when the span fell Monday night.

Police say casualties could have been much higher had the late-night collapse happened at a busy

time on the interstate, which carries more than 178,000 vehicles a day through the area 5 miles north of the Ohio River.

Authorities identified the worker who was killed as Brandon William Carl, of Augusta, Ky. The Hamilton County coroner's office will do an autopsy to determine the cause of his death. Fire officials said his body was recovered from rubble with the help of air

bags and special equipment early Tuesday morning, about four hours after the accident.

Carl was a good, honest, hard-working man who took care of his children, his father, Charles Carl, told WCPO-TV.

The tractor-trailer driver, Eric J. Meyers, of Howell, Mich., slammed into the overpass as the debris landed. He was taken to a hospital with what were de-

scribed as minor injuries.

Westerville-based Kookosing Construction was doing the demolition under a nearly \$91 million contract for a three-year project meant to improve traffic capacity and safety in a busy stretch of I-75. The company had a good safety track record, federal regulators said.

The cause of the accident is under investigation.



ED HILLE, THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER/AP

Members of Hyphenkemberly Dorvilier's family, including her mother, Juana Sully, right, sit in the courtroom during her initial court appearance via teleconference at the Burlington County Courthouse in Mount Holly, N.J., on Tuesday. Dorvilier is accused of killing her newborn baby by immolation.

## Mom accused of setting baby afire is held on \$500,000 bail

By SEAN CARLIN  
The Associated Press

**MOUNT HOLLY, N.J.** — A woman accused of setting her newborn daughter with accelerant, setting her on fire and leaving her in the middle of a road said little in her first court appearance Tuesday, appearing on video to answer to a murder charge.

Hyphenkemberly Dorvilier was read the charge by Superior Court Judge Philip Haines. He maintained her \$500,000 bail, which was set after police found her baby in flames Friday night in the middle of a Pemberton Township road and arrested her.

Dorvilier was found with a can of WD-40 and a lighter in her

jeacket pocket, investigators said. The baby had burns over most of her body, they said in court documents released by Burlington County prosecutors.

Dorvilier, 22, said she was planning to hire a private attorney.

The judge said that if she were to post bail, she would not be released until a psychiatric evaluation was presented to the court.

When the baby was found, she still had the umbilical cord and placenta attached, investigators said. Prosecutors haven't specified a motive for her killing.

There was no answer at the house where Dorvilier lives with her mother and sister.

Police responded to a call about a fire on a road in the township, 30 miles east of Philadelphia. When

they arrived, they found a neighbor holding Dorvilier down on the ground and the baby wrapped in a smoldering towel and paper, according to the court documents.

The baby was alive and breathing when she was flown to a hospital in Philadelphia, but she died two hours later.

Neighbor Dave Joseph, who discovered the burning baby and held Dorvilier down, told police Dorvilier said the baby wasn't hers. Police said they found a trail of blood leading from Dorvilier's home and she appeared to be bleeding while at the hospital afterward.

"It was just mind-boggling," Joseph told the Burlington County Times. "It was a nightmare even if you have a strong heart."

By ADAM BEAM  
The Associated Press

**CLARKSON, Ky.** — The father of a 13-year-old girl who police say went on a multistate crime spree with her older boyfriend said Tuesday that he is not angry with the 18-year-old.

Cheyenne Phillips, 13, and Dalton Hayes, 18, were arrested late Saturday in Panama City Beach, Fla., after authorities found them sleeping in a stolen vehicle.

"I don't have anything against him," Shawn Phillips said. "I'm not upset with this boy. He's a boy. And apparently he thinks something of my daughter. He's just not thinking clearly."

Shawn Phillips also denied as "completely bogus" Hayes' allegation that Cheyenne Phillips told him she had been abused at home.

"Anyone that knows us knows better. My family is pretty well-respected in the community," said Phillips, 38.

Hayes made the abuse allegations during a jailhouse interview with The News Herald of Panama City, telling the paper they just wanted to escape Phillips' family, who she claimed were beating her, and planned to make it to Miami. Officials and others said Tuesday that they did not know of any allegations of abuse.

"All I had to do was tell her to go home and none of this would've happened, but it's hard to tell someone getting beat on to go home," Hayes said. "But, if I could go back, I'd be paying for bus rides instead of stealing trucks."

Shawn Phillips said he and his wife divorced before Cheyenne was born. He said he and his grandparents have raised her since she was 3 on their

farm near Clarkson, where he said Cheyenne had everything she could ever want. But he said Cheyenne would often lie to him. Still, she had a 9 p.m. curfew on school nights and a 10 p.m. curfew on weekends, rules that she never broke.

The abuse allegations are "something we'll talk about when they get back to Kentucky," Grayson County Sheriff Norman Chaffins told The Associated Press. He said he was unaware of any previous accusations of abuse.

The crime spree started on Jan. 3 when police say Cheyenne Phillips' mother, Sherry Phillips, picked up Cheyenne from her house near Clarkson. Sherry Phillips does not have custody or visitation rights with her daughter, and police arrested her on Monday on a charge of custodial interference. She is in jail on a \$50,000 cash bond and has a court hearing scheduled for Thursday morning.

The pair's travels took them to South Carolina and Georgia and included a night in a frigid barn, Hayes said.

Phillips said police in Breckenridge County caught up with the couple two days after they disappeared but were unable to catch them. Phillips said he and other family members searched the woods until about 10:30 that night.

Hayes' agreed in court Monday to return to Kentucky to face charges. He is expected to be charged in Kentucky with burglary, theft, criminal trespassing and criminal mischief. Phillips will face charges in juvenile court. Florencia Department of Children & Families took Phillips to a safe house to make arrangements to return home.

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## WORLD

# Rebels, president make deal in Yemen

The Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen — Yemen's state news agency is reporting that the country's embattled president has reached an agreement with Shiite rebels to end a violent standoff in the capital.

The SABA news agency said the agreement late Wednesday called for the armed Houthi rebels to pull out from around President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi's home and the presidential palace, which they besieged Tuesday. SABA said the deal also calls for them to release a top aide to Hadi they had kidnapped in recent days.

SABA said the agreement also included a clause that would answer the rebels' demands to amend the constitution and expand their representation in the parliament and in state institutions.

Aides to Hadi said earlier Wednesday that he was "captive" in his home.

Houthi rebels had removed his guards and deployed their own fighters there Wednesday, one aide said.

Another described the country being at the "point of no return." Hadi can't resign as president as the Houthis have threatened to prosecute him, that aide said. The two aides spoke on condition of anonymity as they weren't authorized to speak to journalists.

The embattled Hadi is a top U.S. ally in the war against al-Qaida in Yemen.

Advisers said Wednesday that Houthi issued a list of demands to Hadi, asking for the post of vice president and several key government offices, during a meeting Tuesday with Hadi's advisers.

The collapse of Hadi's powers is rooted in Yemen's fractured



Shiite Houthi rebels guard a street leading to the presidential palace in Sanaa, Yemen, on Tuesday.

## Navy sends 2 ships to Red Sea

By STEVEN BEARDSLEY  
Stars and Stripes

The Navy has positioned a pair of amphibious ships in the Red Sea for a possible evacuation of U.S. Embassy personnel from the Yemeni capital of Sanaa.

The USS Iwo Jima, an amphibious assault ship, and the USS Fort McHenry, a dock landing ship, were moved in recent hours from the Gulf of Aden to the Red Sea, nearer to Yemen's capital, U.S. 5th Fleet spokesman Cmdr. Kevin Stephens said. Both ships are part of the Iwo Jima Amphibious Ready Group, and each has Marines embarked from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit.

"They are ready to support operations to protect Americans in Yemen if that becomes necessary," Stephens said.

The State Department will determine whether it wants to

evacuate its personnel on the basis of conditions in Sanaa, he said.

The Shiite Houthi rebel group seized the presidential palace on Tuesday and shelled the presidential residence.

The U.S. considers Yemen's government a close ally in efforts to dislodge the terrorist organization al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, which operates out of the country.

Houthi rebels oppose both the Yemeni government and U.S. involvement in the country, although they say they are also against al-Qaida operating in Yemen.

Counterterrorism experts view the al-Qaida affiliate as one of the most capable terrorist organizations in the Middle East. Its plots — which include the failed 2009 attempt by the "underwear bomber" to blow up a Detroit-bound airliner — have come close to striking



Stars and Stripes

the U.S. in recent years.

The group also took credit for this month's attack against the satirical French newspaper Charlie Hebdo, which killed 12 people.

beardsley.steven@stripes.com  
Twitter: @sbeardsley

Council sanctions imposed on him and two Houthi leaders last year for "spoiling" the transition.

Saleh was granted immunity from prosecution in 2012 in return for relinquishing power in a deal brokered by Arab Gulf countries and backed by the West.

radicals, in part by making it easier to tap phones. Valls said Internet providers and social networks "have a legal responsibility under French law" to comply with the new measures.

Some 2,600 counterterrorism officers will be hired, 1,100 of them specifically for intelligence services. Anti-terrorism surveillance is needed for 3,000 people

with ties to France — some at home, others abroad, the prime minister said.

Authorities say more than 1,200 French citizens and residents are now linked to foreign jihad. The defense minister said Wednesday about 10 of those who have gone to Syria or Iraq to fight are former French soldiers. Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said the phenom-

## Boko Haram chief claims massacre in Nigerian town

The Associated Press

MAIDUGURI, Nigeria — Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau has claimed responsibility for the mass killings in the northeast Nigerian town of Baga and threatened more violence.

As many as 2,000 civilians were killed and 3,700 homes and businesses were destroyed in the Jan. 3 attack on the town near Nigeria's border with Cameroon, said Amnesty International.

The leader of Nigeria's Islamic extremists took responsibility for the killings in a video posted on YouTube on Tuesday, the same day International Criminal Court prosecutor Fatou Bensouda said she is examining the allegations of mass killings and will prosecute those most responsible for war crimes and crimes against humanity in Nigeria.

"We are the ones who fought the people of Baga, and we have killed them with such a killing as He (Allah) commanded us in his book," Shekau says, according to a translation from Arabic provided by SITE Intelligence Group.

The video shows weapons supposedly captured from a key military base at Baga.

"This is just the beginning of the killings. What you've just witnessed is a tip of the iceberg. More deaths are coming," Shekau said in the local Hausa language.

"This will mark the end of politics and democracy in Nigeria," he warned as the country gears up for critical Feb. 14 presidential elections.

The attack on Baga has sparked international outrage not seen since Boko Haram kidnapped nearly 300 girls from a boarding school in April last year. Nigeria's demoralized and ill-equipped military has failed to rescue the 219 who remain in captivity.

Neighboring Cameroon has had more success in combating Boko Haram, this month retaking a seized military base and this week winning freedom for scores of abducted women and children.

In neighboring Niger, regional foreign ministers Wednesday were negotiating how to establish a multinational force to fight the extremists.

Shekau taunts them in the video, saying "I'm ready" for any attacks.

## France to get better guns, more intelligence agents to fight terrorism

The Associated Press

PARIS — France announced sweeping new measures to counter homegrown terrorism Wednesday, including giving security forces better weapons and protection, going on an intelligence agent hiring spree and creating a better database of anyone suspected of extremist links.

The measures detailed by

Prime Minister Manuel Valls came as four men were handed preliminary charges of providing logistical support to one of the Paris terrorist attackers — the first charges issued for three days of mayhem that left 20 people dead, including three gunmen.

The new security measures include increased intelligence-gathering on jihadis and other

non remains an "extreme rarity."

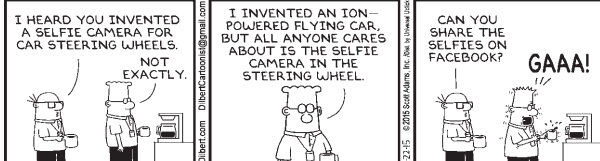
Since three police were among those killed by the Paris terrorists, the prime minister said improving officers' weapons and protective gear was among the top priorities.

France will spend \$490 million over the next three years for all the counterterrorism efforts, he said.

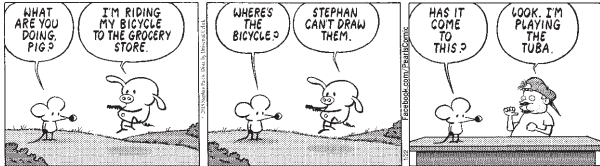
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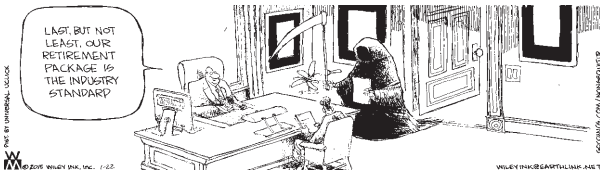
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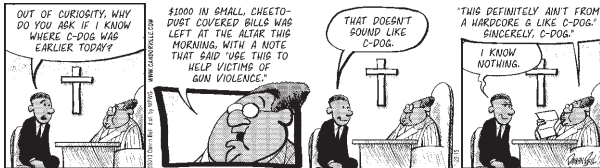
Pearls Before Swine



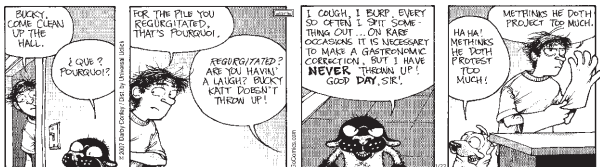
Non Sequitur



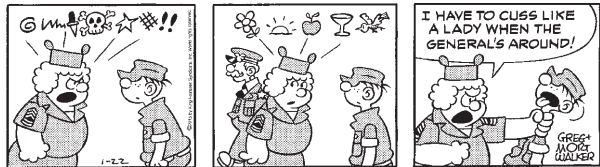
Candorville



Get Fuzzy



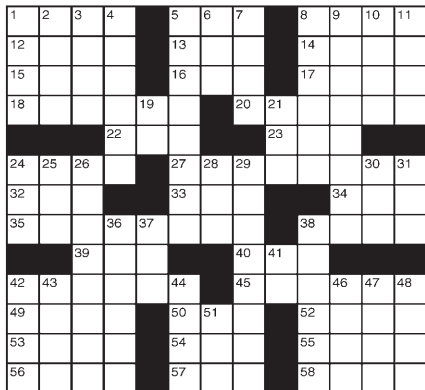
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



### ACROSS

- 1 Call a halt to
- 5 Fellow
- 8 Shield protuberance
- 12 Old Italian money
- 13 Brewery creation
- 14 Fat
- 15 The same, in bibliographies
- 16 Felon's flight
- 17 Coaster
- 18 Mago's problem
- 20 Groups of eight
- 22 \$ dispenser
- 23 Vim and vigor
- 24 Intentions
- 27 Intact
- 32 Lingerie item
- 33 Actress Carrere
- 34 Tramcar contents
- 35 "Tobacco Road" author

### DOWN

- 11 Slender
- 2 Spruce (up)
- 3 Sandwich treat
- 4 Plains of the Argentine
- 5 Sled dog breed
- 6 Carte lead-in
- 7 "Finding —"
- 8 Heavy overcoat
- 9 Linguistic lapse
- 10 Raised
- 11 Probability
- 19 Tagged player
- 21 IRS employee
- 24 "The View" airt

- 25 401(k) alternative
- 26 Ailments
- 28 Goose egg
- 29 — Republic (Madagascar)
- 30 Mound stat
- 31 N.J. neighbor
- 36 Soak
- 37 Teeny
- 38 Church-key, for one
- 41 Brief period of time?
- 42 Press
- 43 California wine valley
- 44 Sunup
- 46 Cab
- 47 Hastens
- 48 Otherwise
- 51 Sheepish remark

### Answer to Previous Puzzle



1-22

### CRYPTOQUIP

DF SFFJ KD DTN PFC SW KM  
MTKJNMLNKN WAW, FON  
LCFRKRSE ONNWM DF TKUN K

R K C W ' M - N E N U A N P .

Yesterday's Cryptquip: I HAD AN AWFUL TIME TRYING TO COLLECT FISH EGGS UNDERWATER. CARE TO LISTEN TO MY TALE OF ROE?

Today's Cryptquip Clue: K equals A



# BUSINESS/WEATHER

## Netflix: 4.3M subscribers in 4th quarter

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Coming off its best quarter yet, Netflix is accelerating its international expansion by adding its original programming will hook millions more subscribers on the Internet video service.

Netflix Inc. added 13 million worldwide subscribers last year, including 4.3 million during the final three months, according to figures released Tuesday in the company's fourth-quarter earnings report. It marked Netflix's biggest quarter of subscriber gains ever, eclipsing the 4.07 million added in the final three months of 2013.

Earnings also rose to a new quarterly high of \$83.4 million, or \$1.35 per share, a 72 percent increase from the same time last year. The latest quarter included a one-time gain of \$39 million from the resolution of a tax audit.

The performance drew rare reviews from investors as Netflix's stock surged \$55.35, or nearly 10 percent, to \$404.15 in extended trading. The shares still remain



**Kevin Spacey and Robin Wright are shown in a scene from the Netflix series "House of Cards."**

well below their record high of \$489.29 reached four months ago. Encouraged by the popularity of Netflix's original programs in overseas markets, CEO Reed Hastings now expects to complete the company's international expansion by 2017 while remaining profitable. The Los Gatos, Calif., company plans to borrow \$1 billion to help finance its push outside the U.S., including a potential entrance into China.

"It's going to be a very exciting couple years," Hastings said

in an interview Tuesday. Netflix also is pouring more money into original programming in an effort to maintain its leadership in long-form Internet video amid intensifying competition from imposing rivals such as Google Inc.'s YouTube, Amazon.com and Time Warner Inc.'s HBO.

The on-demand convenience of online video streaming has become so popular that HBO, a 42-year-old cable channel, will start selling a separate Internet-only subscription later this year to connect with the steadily expanding audience spurning traditional pay-TV packages. Meanwhile, YouTube has been amassing more professionally produced content to supplement its wide array of amateur videos, while Amazon.com plans to finance about a dozen full-length films for its \$99-a-year Prime service, which also includes free shipping and music streaming for its e-commerce customers.

Netflix's emphasis on movie distinctive shows, launched two years ago with the debut of the

award-winning series "House of Cards," has resulted in more viewers while trimming profits because of higher licensing costs. To help pay the bills, Netflix raised its prices last May by \$1 a month, to \$9, in a move that the company initially blamed for disappointing subscriber growth last summer.

Hastings now believes last summer's lackluster growth had more to do with narrowing opportunities to expand in the U.S. now that Netflix already is in so many domestic households.

### MARKET WATCH

Jan. 20, 2015

Dow Jones Industrials	3,561.75
Nasdaq composite	4,654.85
Standard & Poor's 500	2,022.55
Russell 2000	1,170.25

### EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Jan. 22)	\$1.1932
Dollar buys (Jan. 22)	€0.8381
British pound (Jan. 22)	\$1.55
Japanese yen (Jan. 22)	¥115.00
South Korean won (Jan. 22)	₩1,061.00

Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.5110
Canada (Dollar)	1.2068
China (Yuan)	6.2157
Denmark (Krone)	6.9921
Egypt (Pound)	7.3012
Euro	\$1.1632/8597
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.5200
Hungary (Forint)	270.45
Israel (Sheqel)	3.9273
Japan (Yen)	117.43
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2935
Norway (Krone)	7.5657
Philippines (Peso)	44.30
Poland (Zloty)	3.70
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7565
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3311
South Korea (Won)	1,081.05
Switzerland (Franc)	0.8557
Thailand (Baht)	32.58
Turkey (Lira)	2.3371

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., Saudi Arabia, British pounds in Germany, which with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies in one unit, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollar-to-euro.)

### INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
90-day Treasury bill	0.01
Federal funds market rate	0.13
3-month bill	0.01
30-year bond	2.38

## WEATHER OUTLOOK



### Thursday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Able, Texas	38	28	Snow	Chatanooga	53	38	Cldy	Fort Wayne	32	22	Cldy	Louisville	43	30	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	30	23	Cldy	Cheyenne	37	20	Cldy	Fresno	54	42	PCldy	Lubbock	31	18	Snow
Albany, N.Y.	31	16	Cldy	Chicago	33	24	Cldy	Goodland	39	20	Cldy	Macon	61	44	Cldy
Albuquerque	34	18	Cldy	Cincinnati	37	25	Cldy	Grand Junction	30	24	Cldy	Medford	53	38	Cldy
Allentown, Pa.	37	19	Cldy	Cleveland	31	23	Cldy	Great Falls	40	20	PCldy	Memphis	47	35	Cldy
Amarillo	26	12	Snow	Colorado Springs	31	12	PCldy	Green Bay	29	22	Cldy	Miami Beach	78	69	Rain
Anchorage	22	20	Cldy	Columbia, S.C.	60	41	Cldy	Greensboro, N.C.	50	32	PCldy	Midland-Odesa	34	25	Snow
Asheville	56	40	Cldy	Columbus, Ga.	34	23	Cldy	Harrisburg	38	22	Cldy	Milwaukee	33	23	Cldy
Atlanta	56	40	Cldy	Concord, N.H.	30	13	Cldy	Hartford	37	17	Cldy	Mpls-St. Paul	28	23	PCldy
Atlantic City	38	22	Cldy	Concord, N.H.	68	44	Rain	Helena	34	22	Cldy	Missoula	31	23	Cldy
Astoria	52	38	Rain	Corpus Christi	43	34	Rain	Honolulu	80	70	Cldy	Mobile	58	48	Rain
Baltimore	43	26	Cldy	Dallas-Ft. Worth	43	34	Rain	Houston	55	42	Rain	Montgomery	60	47	Cldy
Baton Rouge	52	43	Rain	Dayton	34	24	Cldy	Huntsville	53	39	Cldy	Nashville	46	35	Cldy
Bilings	41	28	Cldy	Daytona Beach	72	61	Cldy	Indianapolis	39	24	Cldy	New Orleans	57	45	Rain
Birmingham	55	42	Cldy	Denver	38	18	Cldy	Jacksonville	53	38	Rain	New York City	38	23	Cldy
Bismarck	42	25	PCldy	Des Moines	36	25	PCldy	Jacksonville, Miss.	53	38	Rain	Newark	39	23	Cldy
Boise	33	25	Cldy	Duluth	25	20	Cldy	Janeau	43	37	Rain	Norfolk, Va.	48	34	PCldy
Boston	34	22	Cldy	El Paso	39	26	Cldy	Kansas City	39	24	PCldy	Norfolk, Va.	48	34	PCldy
Bridgeport	42	20	Cldy	Elkins	32	21	Snow	Key West	79	72	PCldy	Oklahoma City	37	27	Cldy
Brownsville	76	46	Rain	Erie	27	20	Cldy	Knoxville	48	35	Cldy	Omaha	39	27	PCldy
Buffalo	27	19	Cldy	Eugene	50	44	Cldy	Lake Charles	54	43	Rain	Orlando	77	62	Cldy
Burlington, Vt.	25	15	PCldy	Fargo	42	29	Cldy	Lansing	54	43	PCldy	Pasadena	64	50	Cldy
Caribou, Maine	20	2	Cldy	Fairbanks	-5	-14	Snow	Las Vegas	58	38	PCldy	Pendleton	39	31	Cldy
Charleston, S.C.	63	45	Cldy	Fargo	32	26	PCldy	Long Beach	67	54	Cldy	Pensacola	39	25	Cldy
Charleston, W. Va.	40	27	Cldy	Flagstaff	33	17	Cldy	Lincoln	49	34	PCldy	Philadelphia	39	25	Cldy
Charlotte, N.C.	56	35	Cldy	Flint	29	18	Snow	Little Rock	42	33	Rain	Phoenix	66	44	Cldy
				Fort Smith	45	33	Cldy	Los Angeles	77	49	PCldy	Pittsburgh	31	21	Cldy

National temperature extremes  
Hi: Tue., 88, Ottawa, Texas  
Lo: Tue., -18, Rudyard, Mich.

## WORLD

# Palestinian man stabs 11 people on Tel Aviv bus

By TIA GOLDENBERG  
The Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel — A Palestinian man stabbed 11 people on and near a bus in central Tel Aviv on Wednesday, seriously wounding three of them before he was shot and arrested by Israeli police.

Police described the assault as a terrorist attack, and the Islamic militant group Hamas praised it. It appeared to be the latest in a series of "lone-wolf" attacks in which Palestinians have killed and wounded Israelis using knives, acid and vehicles, citing tensions surrounding a disputed Jerusalem holy site.

The man, who was riding the bus with the other passengers, began stabbing people, including the driver, then managed to get out of the bus and run away from the scene.

Officers from a prison service, who happened to be nearby, saw the bus swerving out of control and a man running away. They gave chase, shot the man in the leg, wounding him lightly, and arrested him.

"He had murder in his eyes," a bus passenger who gave her name as Orly told Israeli Radio.

Eleven people were stabbed and three remain in critical condition, according to Lee Gat, a spokeswoman at Tel Hashomer hospital, and a statement from the Ichilov hospital. Police earlier said nine people had been stabbed, citing initial numbers giving by paramedics at the scene.

Video aired by Israel's Channel 10 TV showed the attacker run-

ning in the street and stabbing a woman as he tried to escape. Police confirmed that Matroukh stabbed a woman as he attempted to flee.

Police identified the assailant as West Bank resident Hamza Mohammed Matroukh, 23, a Palestinian who had entered Israel illegally. Police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld said Matroukh was in custody and undergoing questioning. Police said he confessed to the stabbing, saying he carried it out in response to last year's Gaza war and tensions surrounding a Jerusalem site holy to Jews and Muslims.

The stabbing appeared to be the latest in a series of attacks in recent months carried out by individual Palestinians with no known ties to armed groups, which have killed about a dozen people, including five killed when two men attacked a Jerusalem synagogue with guns and meat cleavers.

The violence comes weeks ahead of March elections, in which Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, a security hawk, is facing a challenge from a joint list headed by Isaac Herzog and Tzipi Livni, who support negotiations with the Palestinians. The attack could sway votes in Netanyahu's favor.

Hamas, the Islamic militant group that controls the Gaza Strip, did not claim responsibility but praised Wednesday's attack as "brave and heroic" in a tweet by Izzat Rishq, a Hamas leader living in Qatar.



AP photos

**A Saudi man smokes a waterpipe as a woman walks on the boardwalk in Jiddah, Saudi Arabia, in 2007. A growing number of Saudi women are remaining single longer, causing concern among ultraconservatives.**

## New generation of Saudi women challenging marriage traditions

By AYA BATRAWY  
The Associated Press

JIDDAH, Saudi Arabia — Amna Fatani knows she wants a brilliant career and a life different from that of Saudi women of her mother's generation who married early, usually to a husband not of their own choosing.

The 27-year-old, studying for her master's degree at Georgetown University in Washington and hoping to someday become Saudi Arabia's first female labor minister, is part of a growing number of Saudi women choosing to remain single through their 20s and into their 30s as they pursue other ambitions.

The trend has ruffled ultraconservatives who see it as an affront to the very foundations of the kingdom, where strict interpretations of Islam and rigid tribal codes have long dictated the terms of marriage.

"My friends and I have reached a point (where) we're very specific about what we want," Fatani said. "I need someone who trusts that if I need to do something, I can make the decision to ask for help or choose to do it alone."

Saudi women stand at the center of a societal push between the kingdom's push for greater women's education and rights to work, and laws that give men final say over their lives.

Women cannot travel, study abroad, marry or undergo certain medical procedures without the permission of a male guardian — usually a father or husband, or in their absence, an older or even a younger brother.

The growing number of single women has alarmed clerics, who have responded by pushing for early marriage and warning of alleged evil consequences of "spinsters," such as sex out-



**A Saudi woman smokes tobacco from a waterpipe as her friend looks at her cellphone in a coffee shop in Jiddah.**

side wedlock.

During a 2005 sermon, the imam of Mecca's Grand Mosque, Abdul-Rahman As-Sudais, raised an early outcry against "the dangerous phenomenon of life-long spinsters," saying it endangers "the community as a whole."

Traditionally, women in Saudi Arabia are expected to be married by their early 20s. In 2011, more than 1.5 million Saudi women aged over 30 were single, according to the Economy and Planning Ministry.

According to government figures, 3.3 million are women over 30 in this nation of 20 million people — and if the ministry's 2011 figure is unchanged, it means that about 45 percent of Saudi women over 30 are single.

While women's rights activists agree there's a rise in the numbers of single women, some question the accuracy of the government's figure, saying it sup-

ports the norm that Saudi men are allowed more than one wife.

Women have been taking on a greater role in public life, though their jobs are mostly in the education sector. The Labor Ministry says there are more than 400,000 working women in Saudi Arabia, compared with less than 55,000 before 2009.

Women outnumber men in the kingdom's universities, and there are tens of thousands of women among the 150,000 Saudis studying abroad on government scholarships.

Education is also changing women's attitudes toward marriage and giving them more confidence, said Hatoun al-Fassi, a professor of women's history in Saudi Arabia. "You can no longer control these attitudes," she said.

Some Saudi women are also challenging the rules on how to meet a prospective husband as they navigate through tradition and customs.



HASAN JAMALI/AP

## Protests in Bahrain

**A Bahraini anti-government protester prepares to kick away a tear-gas canister fired by police during clashes following a march in support of jailed opposition leaders Tuesday in Bilad al-Qadeem, Bahrain. Nabeel Rajab, one of Bahrain's best-known human rights activists, was sentenced to six months in jail Tuesday after being found guilty of insulting government ministries on Twitter.**

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Cops: Woman arrested wearing stolen clothes

**MI** BATTLE CREEK — Police allege that a woman was arrested while wearing clothes she had stolen earlier in the day from a Battle Creek store.

Battle Creek police said in a statement that the woman, 36, is believed to have smashed a window early Monday at a Dollar General store, where clothing was taken, before smashing a window at a nearby Walgreens pharmacy, where cigarettes were stolen. Both break-ins were captured on surveillance video.

Police said they were able to identify the woman and spotted her while she was walking Monday evening. She was arrested on two counts of breaking and entering and taken to the Calhoun County jail.

## Son stabs burglar in home; suspect arrested

**KS** WICHITA — Wichita police said a teenager stabbed a burglar in his home while his brother alerted authorities.

The suspect is hospitalized recovering from the stab wounds he suffered during the attempted burglary Monday. His condition was not released.

KAKE-TV reported that Austin Schierkolk, 17, encountered the burglar early Monday in west Wichita. He said he stabbed the man in the neck and shoulder after they exchanged words. The fight continued until the man fled through a back door. At the same time, Luke Schierkolk, 15, was on the phone with police. Austin suffered only minor injuries.

Sgt. Steve Yarberry said the suspect was arrested after he crashed a stolen SUV at a nearby apartment complex.

The boys' mother, Tonya Schierkolk, said she's grateful the boys knew what to do.

## 2 puppies put in plastic bag, thrown in trash bin

**SD** YANKTON — Police in Yankton are investigating the abandonment of two puppies found tied up in a plastic bag and thrown in a trash bin behind a store.

The puppies are a Yorkie-Maltese cross and about 9 weeks old. A person searching for a box found them late Friday.

Animal Control Officer Lisa Brasel told the Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan that the puppies were dirty but in good health. They're being cared for and a family to whom they found them and a family.

It's the second time this month that puppies have been found abandoned in a trash bin in South Dakota. Six puppies were rescued from a garbage bag inside a bin in Sioux Falls on Jan. 10.

## Police seek woman in hit-and-run accident

**NH** CONCORD — Police in Concord are looking for a woman accused of hitting a 16-year-old boy on a bicycle with

## THE CENSUS

**\$4.5M**

The amount spent on festivities surrounding the inauguration of Texas Republican Gov. Greg Abbott. The events included a parade, a concert featuring Lady Antebellum, a barbecue with 4 tons of brisket, and a ball. Abbott and new Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick were sworn in on the Capitol steps. Abbott succeeded Rick Perry, who was in office since December 2000 and was the state's longest-serving governor.



JANE BACON, THE (FLAGSTAFF) ARIZONA DAILY SUN/AP

## Mascot mentors mascot

The Northern Arizona University Athletics mascot, Louie the Lumberjack, gives a snowboarding lesson to SPIKE (the superball), the Arizona Super Bowl Host Committee mascot, at the Arizona Snowbowl ski resort on Monday just north of Flagstaff, Ariz. SPIKE's local celebrity status began in 2008 for Super Bowl XLII. Now he's got a new look, with 10 fingers, a headband, new sunglasses and a uniform with

her car, then driving away.

Police said the incident happened the morning of Jan. 14 at the intersection of Warren and North Spring streets. The boy approached a four-way stop at the same time as the car. He told police he waved the car through the intersection, but then saw the woman wave him on.

When he proceeded, so did the woman. Police said the car's right front bumper struck the rear wheel of his bike. The teen fell off and struck his shoulder on the ground. He said he could see her mouthing the words, "Oh, my God," as she drove off.

He was treated for a broken clavicle.

## Fire damages cigar lounge Up in Smoke

**NJ** MIDDLETOWN — No one was injured in a fire at a cigar store in Middletown.

The fire at Up in Smoke Cigar Lounge broke out early Monday. Authorities told the Asbury Park Press that it took about 20

minutes to bring the fire under control. The store received smoke and water damage. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

## Police arrest 2 after 1 seen dancing with gun

**AR** LITTLE ROCK — Central Arkansas police arrested two men after officers spotted one of them dancing with a gun at a gas pump.

Little Rock police said officers spotted a man holding a gun, dancing and waving his hands in the air at a Little Rock convenience store. Officers said they followed the vehicle and waited for another patrol car before pulling it over.

According to a Little Rock police report, officers realized the passenger was sitting on a black semi-automatic handgun. Police also found 2-liter drink bottles filled with a tinted liquid, which the vehicle's driver told officers was cough syrup.

The Arkansas Democrat-Gazette reported that both men are convicted felons. They were ar-

rested on charges of possession of firearms by certain persons, possession of promethazine with purpose to deliver and simultaneous possession of drugs and guns.

## Lottery releases first 'I Heart Bacon' ticket

**NH** CONCORD — Lottery ticket buyers in New Hampshire who dream of bringing home the bacon now can smell it, too.

The state lottery released its first scratch-n-sniff "I Heart Bacon" ticket this month, which features a \$1,000 grand prize.

Lottery Commission Executive Director Charlie McIntyre said players "will think it's time for Saturday morning breakfast."

To promote the ticket, the New Hampshire Lottery will be driving a "bacon truck," handing out free applewood-smoked bacon samples and tickets at stores in Keene and Durham, the state welcome centers in Hooksett and at the Verizon Wireless Arena in

Manchester.

## Sheriff's deputies save teen in suicide attempt

**MI** LAPEER — The Lapeer County Sheriff's Office is commending two deputies who saved a 16-year-old attempting to commit suicide.

The department said deputies responded to a Lapeer home on Dec. 31 after receiving a call from the teen's parents. Deputies said the boy had climbed about 20 feet up a pine tree with a rope fashioned as a noose.

After attempting to communicate with the teen, deputies said he climbed about another 10 feet. One of the deputies was able to climb the tree while his partner continued to talk to the boy.

The deputies said the teen eventually placed the rope around his neck and jumped. The department said the deputy in the tree was able to grab and cut the rope.

The department said the teen was taken for medical treatment.

From wire reports



# FACES

# Moore's fifth Oscar nod may be the charm

BY STEVEN REA

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Julianne Moore could be seen at the Golden Globes hobbing and nobbing with her begowned, betuxed colleagues at the Beverly Hilton Hotel, waiting for the list of nominees in the lead actress, drama category to be read. She was one of the five — for her heartbreaker of a performance as a brilliant linguistics professor diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's in "Still Alice."

Finally, the names were called: Moore, Rosamund Pike ("Gone Girl"), Reese Witherspoon ("Wild"), Felicity Jones ("The Theory of Everything"), and Jennifer Aniston ("Cake").

"Obviously, or not obviously, I got very nervous as my category approached," Moore said. "It had been a long, long night... And then at one point, you realize that in 10 minutes it's all going to be over — good, bad, or whatever."

Moore won. She will have to deal with that stomach-churning anticipation again Feb. 22 at the Academy Awards. Her name was announced along with fellow Golden Globe nominees (minus Aniston, replaced by Marion Cotillard for "Two Days, One Night") as the 87th Oscar contenders were revealed last week. Although "Still Alice" — which costars Alec Baldwin, Kristen Stewart and Kate Bosworth — is a small

indie on a subject that's decidedly uncool, Moore is rightly considered the front-runner for the best actress statuette. Her portrayal of Alice Howland, whose identity starts slipping away as the disease takes hold, is unforgettable. She has been winless after four nominations ("Boogie Nights," "The End of the Affair," "Far From Heaven" and "The Hours"); her fifth may prove the charm.

"I'm very fortunate that Alzheimer's hasn't been something that I've had a close experience with, with either family or friends," Moore says. "Which is unusual, because there are so many people who have been affected by this disease."

"But because I didn't know anything, I was very specific and extensive in my research. I didn't want to represent anything on screen that I hadn't seen."

Moore dove in, meeting with clinicians, researchers, neuropsychiatrists. She sat in on support groups, visited facilities where she spoke to caregivers, family members, patients. "I did Skype calls with women around the country who had been diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer's, what they call younger-onset," Moore says. "One of whom had been diagnosed at 45 and had been a neurosurgery nurse...."

"And one of the women I spoke to after a beautiful thing: She learned that

she was not the most reliable narrator of her own life...."

"And that's how we experience our lives — we're our reference point, we're our own narrators, but then you're not."

"Still Alice" was written and directed by Richard Glatzer and Wash Westmoreland. In 2011, they were asked to take a look at Lisa Genova's novel. That same year, Glatzer was diagnosed with ALS, but the pair decided to take on the project. Glatzer's experiences with his own disease, observing how people responded to it and to him, informed the screenplay.

In the film, Moore's character, once at ease addressing large groups, agrees to speak about her experiences with the disease to an Alzheimer's group. It's a speech of resounding power and pain — and humor — beautifully written, beautifully delivered. "I feel like one of the things that Richard did in that speech so spectacularly is bring every experience of his alive. What does it mean to have a degenerative disease?... Everybody talks about, with these diseases, that there are people that step up, that really show up in your life, and then there are the people that you think will step up that kind of disappear. People that don't treat you the same way, because they think you're not quite the same individual."

Julianne Moore isn't just the leading nominee for best actress at this year's Oscars, she's also helping design the backstage green room. Architectural Digest announced Tuesday that Moore will consult on the room's look and help choose furniture and decor for the celebrity enclave.

**CORIS PIZZELLO, INVISION/AP**

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# Bieber becomes a real joke for Comedy Central roast

From wire reports

The hits just keep on coming. Or they will, anyway, when Justin Bieber gets roasted on Comedy Central.

This is really happening, according to Ryan Seacrest:

"Yes I got confirmation @JustinBieber is getting roasted by @ComedyCentral in march.love u Justin but it's time lol #BieberRoast"

And according to the pop singer himself:

"For years I have wanted Comedy Central to roast me. They said only if I provided them w/ more material for so a year now I have worked hard Lol. #BieberRoast"

In a new release, Comedy Central announced that it is "turning up the heat on pop icon Justin Bieber." Biels, the cable network said, "will be this year's Roastee," the star of the "Comedy Central Roast of Justin Bieber," which will be taped in Los Angeles and aired at a date that hasn't yet been announced.

"Justin has been asking us for a few years to roast him, and we just kept telling him to go create more source material first. We're thrilled he listened," Kent Altman, Comedy Central's president of content development and original programming, said in a statement that alluded to the ever-expanding Book of Justin Bieber Tomfoolery and Buffoonery.

But perhaps in the most obvious case of "be careful what you wish for," the tiny singer is opening up a very large can of potential worms. There are so many choices for the roaststers about which part of Bieber they will attack. His preening Instagram selfies? His egg-throwing shenanigans? Any one of his legal problems? (This is just off the top of our heads.)

"Saturday Night Live" made fun of the young star just this past weekend, spoofing his maligned Calvin Klein ad.

Suggesting he can, in fact, handle the heat, Bieber responded thusly: "@nbcml will play. Lol."

## Pharrell: Live Earth concert to press for climate action

Pharrell is teaming with Nobel Peace Prize-winner Al Gore to produce a Live Earth concert on seven continents on June 18 to build support for a U.N. climate pact in Paris among more than 190 nations in December.

On a stage Wednesday at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, with producer Kevin Will, Williams said "we literally are going to have humanity harmonize all at once" in support of a binding international accord to limit heat-trapping greenhouse gas emissions. He said the purpose is "to have a billion voices with one message — to demand climate action now" from governments rather than to continue the world's reliance on fossil fuels.

## Other news

■ The average price of a movie ticket rose to \$8.17 in 2014, the highest yearly average on record, according to The National Association of Theatre Owners. The price was up less than half a percent from the \$8.13 average in 2013, NATO reported on Tuesday. However, the fourth quarter of 2014 saw a jump in price to \$8.30. The third quarter was also higher than usual, reflecting the box office success of surprise hit "Guardians of the Galaxy."

■ Pharrell and Sam Smith will perform at the Grammys. The Recording Academy announced Wednesday that Usher and Miranda Lambert also will take the stage at the Feb. 8 show in Los Angeles. Common and John Legend will perform their Golden Globe-winning, Oscar-nominated song, "Glory," from the movie "Selma."

■ The family of a comedian killed in the New Jersey Turnpike crash that seriously injured Tracy Morgan has settled a wrongful death claim with Wal-Mart. An attorney representing the estate of James McNair tells The Associated Press that McNair's two adult children are pleased with the settlement. The amount of the settlement is confidential.

■ Linkin Park is canceling the rest of its U.S. tour after its lead singer injured his leg. Chester Bennington says he needs immediate medical attention and it's impossible for him to perform. Bennington hasn't said how he injured his leg. Linkin Park's "The Hunting Party" tour kicked off last week.



PETER ROWE/AP

## Tourists get knockout photo of Stallone atop 'Rocky' steps

A group of tourists who ran up the "Rocky" steps got a knockout photo at the top — a selfie with Rocky himself.

Peter Rowe said he and two friends had just finished racing up the staircase at the Philadelphia Museum of Art on Saturday when they saw Sylvester Stallone.

"He said to us, 'Man, you guys are fast. You're making me look bad!'" Rowe said Tuesday. Stallone then posed for a selfie with the trio, putting up one fist.

Stallone made the art museum's steps famous in his first turn as fictional boxer Rocky Balboa, who used them as part of his training regimen. Thousands of people now visit the steps each year to re-create the run and to take pictures with a Rocky statue, which originally was a prop in "Rocky III."

Stallone is in Philadelphia for the shooting of "Creed," the latest installment in the series. It stars Michael B. Jordan as the grandson of early Rocky foe Apollo Creed.

From The Associated Press

## WORLD

# Tabloid turns page on famed topless models

By JILL LAWLESS  
The Associated Press

LONDON — Feminists are rejoicing at the disappearance of bare breasts from the British tabloid *The Sun* — though the newspaper is not saying whether the decision to ditch its “Page 3 girls” is permanent.

The Rupert Murdoch-owned tabloid has featured topless models on its third page for almost 45 years, but since Friday they have been replaced by models wearing bras or bikinis.

The *Sun* has declined to comment on the change, but the Murdoch-owned *Times* newspaper reported Tuesday that the feature had been dropped from the paper's print edition. It said the *Sun* website would continue to feature topless models.

Murdoch bought the struggling *Sun* in 1969 and turned it into Britain's best-selling newspaper, a mix of patriotic flag-waving, celebrity scandal, cheeky humor and, critics say, sexism. The *Sun*'s circulation has been declining for years as people switch to digital media, though it still sells about 2 million copies a day.

Page 3 was long seen as integral to the brand, but Murdoch has recently indicated that might be changing. The *Sun*'s Irish edition stopped using topless models in 2013. Last year Murdoch said he found Page 3 “old-fashioned,” but readers seem to disagree.

A protest campaign led by young women under



MATT DUNHAM/AP

**The *Sun* newspaper is displayed in a shop in London on Tuesday. A report says topless models will no longer appear on the tabloid's Page 3.**

the slogan “No More Page 3” has helped put pressure on Murdoch's News Corp. Campaigner Yas Natani said it was “about time” the newspaper dropped a feature that “gives the message that men make the news for what they do, and women for what they look like.”

The Conservative-led government's education minister, Nicky Morgan, said the move was “a long-overdue decision and marks a small but significant step towards improving media portrayal of women and girls.”

Former Page 3 models spoke up in defense of topless tradition. “This isn't a triumph for feminism,” model Laura LaCole told the BBC. “This is a triumph for prudishness.”

## 5-year-old hit with fee for birthday ‘no-show’

LONDON — It was not what Derek Nash expected to find in his 5-year-old's school bag: a bill demanding a “no-show fee” for another child's birthday party.

Nash said the bill from another

parent sought 15.95 pounds (\$24) because his son, Alex, had not attended the party at a ski center in Plymouth, southwest England.

Nash told the BBC on Monday he had initially accepted the party invitation, but later realized Alex was supposed to visit his grandparents that day. He said he did not have contact details to let the

other family know.

The birthday boy's mother, Julie Lawrence, told the BBC that her contact details were on the party invitation.

Nash says Lawrence has threatened him with small claims court but he has no plans to pay.

From The Associated Press

# Pope: No need to breed ‘like rabbits’

The Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis is praising big families after saying Catholics don't have to breed “like rabbits.”

He said big families are a gift and don't cause poverty in the developing world, and that the real cause of poverty is an unjust economic system that idolizes money over people.

Francis reviewed his recent trip to Sri Lanka and the Philippines during his general audience Wednesday. During the trip, Francis strongly defended the church ban on artificial contraception, but also said Catholics needn't breed “like rabbits” and should practice “responsible parenthood” through church-approved birth control methods.

On Wednesday, he said it gave him great “consolation and hope to see so many large families who welcome children as a true gift of God.”

Meanwhile, the pope's “rabbits” comment has caused offense among Germany's rabbit breeders.

Erwin Leowsky, president of the central council of German rabbit breeders, told news agency dpa on Tuesday that only rabbits which live in the wild are sexually overactive. He said those in captivity have tamer reproductive habits.

Leowsky says he feels the pope should allow Catholics to use contraception rather than resorting to misleading clichés about rabbits.

# Eruption creates island

The Associated Press

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — A volcanic eruption in Tonga has created a new island — although one scientist said Wednesday it could soon disappear.

The volcano has been erupting for a month in the ocean about 400 miles northwest of the capital, Nuku'alofa. Last week it disrupted international air travel to the Pacific archipelago for several days.

New Zealand volcanologist Nico Fournier said he traveled by boat to within about a mile of the new island on Saturday to take a closer look. He said it's made mainly of loose scoria and its dimensions are about 1.1 miles by 0.9 miles, and that it rises about 109 yards above the sea.

“It's quite an exciting site; you get to see the birth of an island,” he said. “Visually, it was quite spectacular, but there was no big sound coming with it, no boom. It was a bit eerie.”

He said that once the volcano stops erupting, it will likely take the ocean no more than a few months to erode the island entirely. He said it would need to be made of lava or something more durable to survive.

Fournier, who works for New Zealand agency GNS Science, said he was able to establish that the volcano was mainly belching steam into the atmosphere, and that the small amount of ash it was sending out was rising no more than about 1.2 miles.



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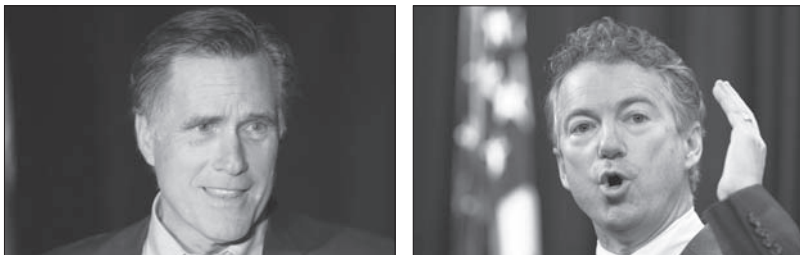
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## OPINION



GREGORY BULL/AP

MANUEL BALCE CENETA/AP

Left: Mitt Romney, addressing the Republican National Committee's winter meeting Friday, said that "the results of the Hillary Clinton-Barack Obama foreign policy have been devastating and you know that." Right: Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., another possible 2016 presidential candidate, has been consulting with foreign policy experts from the uber-realist Center for the National Interest and reversing course on previous views that could be seen as not supportive of the State of Israel.

## On foreign policy, it's a race to the right

By JOSH ROGIN  
Bloomberg News

Republican voters are divided when it comes to key foreign policy issues and the role of American power abroad. But listening to the party's potential 2016 presidential candidates at the recent Republican National Committee winter meeting in San Diego, you wouldn't have known it. Not only was foreign policy front and center of every address, but the contenders were all convening around a hawkish, almost neoconservative position similar to where Mitt Romney was when he ran in 2012.

One after the other, the candidates decried the foreign policy of President Barack Obama and former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, advocating for a more muscular foreign posture that would place America back in the center of the world's leading crises.

Romney himself devoted roughly half of his 10-minute speech on Friday to calling for a new foreign policy approach that includes more use of American military, diplomatic and economic power around the world. As if to drive home the point, his speech was aboard the USS Midway, a decommissioned aircraft carrier.

"The world is not safer six years after Barack Obama has been in office; there's no question about that," he said. "The foreign policy was one that was crafted by he and his secretary of state, Hillary Clinton, and their foreign policy was based on the premise that if we were friendly enough to other people and if we smile broadly enough and press the reset button, then peace is going to break out around the world. ... And the results of the Hillary Clinton-Barack Obama foreign policy have been devastating and you know that."

Romney criticized Obama for not following through on his "red line" threat to attack Syrian President Bashar Assad after the regime used chemical weapons en masse against its own people. He criticized the administration for "leading from behind" in Libya and "sitting on the sidelines" as Israel mistreats allies such as Iran.

"This has not been a good time for American foreign policy," Romney said. "So in my view, to make the world safer for Americans and for good people all over the world and to make the world safe for freedom, our party must stand for making the world safer and our principles will do that."

Earlier that day, former Texas Gov. Rick Perry railed against what he called the Obama-Clinton foreign policy as weak and ineffective, criticizing everything from the trade of five Taliban combatants for U.S. Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl to the president's

withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Iraq in 2011. He blamed Obama and Clinton for the human tragedy in Syria and the rise of Islamic State.

"We saw ISIS terrorists in American tanks using American weaponry taking cities secured through the sacrifice of American blood. This happened because of the president's inaction in Syria," Perry claimed. "He allowed opposition forces to become radicalized. They grew in strength and number and eventually crossed into Iraq."

Like Romney, Perry called out Obama for not attacking Syria in 2013: "Assad crossed that line without consequence, meaning that a dictator remains in power due to this president."

Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker and Ben Carson, the conservative author and former neurosurgeon, took similar approaches, and all the speakers were rewarded with cheers and applause from the RNC crowd when they took the Obama-Clinton foreign policy "weakness" to task.

The candidates' tough talk doesn't necessarily jive with where most Republican primary voters are on the use of the American military abroad, especially in the Middle East.

Only 53 percent of Republicans support using U.S. ground troops in Iraq to fight the Islamic State, according to a Brookings poll released earlier this month, while 46 percent oppose it. Nearly a third of Republicans believe the U.S. should stay out of the war against the Islamic State altogether. And while 72 percent of Republicans are convinced that in order to solve the Syria crisis, Assad must go, an equal 72 percent of Republicans believe that the U.S. military should not fight against the Assad regime.

Nevertheless, as they prepare to hit the campaign trail, even those Republicans who have tried to distance themselves from militaristic policies in the past are looking to the hawkish experts inside their own party for guidance.

Sen. Ted Cruz, of Texas, told me in an interview last year that he is staking out a foreign policy position that sought to balance between the hawkishness of some party leaders such as Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., and the more isolationist tendencies of others such as Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky. "There are a range of views within the Republican Party, but there is an overwhelming consensus that the Obama-Clinton foreign policy is a manifest disaster, that leading from behind does not work," he said.

Cruz said he agreed with McCain on the need to increase pressure on Iran but agreed with Paul on his opposition to striking the Assad regime after it uses chemical weapons. He is against long-term military

interventions overseas and is opposed to nation-building abroad.

When asked whom he trusts for advice on foreign policy, Cruz named two hawkish conservatives, Ambassador John Bolton and former White House official Elliott Abrams, and one hawkish Democrat, former CIA Director James Woolsey.

"I believe the central touchstone for U.S. foreign policy should be defending the vital national security interests of the United States," he said. "The common thread, the most central failing of the Obama-Clinton foreign policy, has been a failure to focus on and defend the national security interests of the United States."

Even Paul has been trying to deny his isolationist roots and reframe his foreign policy views as "realist." He has been consulting with foreign policy experts from the uber-realist Center for the National Interest and reversing course on previous views that could be seen as not supportive of the State of Israel.

Some Republican political experts say that it's natural for potential candidates to stake out a hawkish foreign policy position in a presidential election; there's little advantage of running to the left of a Democratic nominee and the party always coalesces around its more hawkish wing when the commander in chief job is on the line. "If you are conservative, you believe Obama is weak and you have to be strong. I think that's where Republican primary voters certainly are," said Weekly Standard Editor Bill Kristol.

The strategy of attacking Obama's foreign policy as failing and weak largely worked in 2012. Romney, a candidate with no foreign policy experience, narrowed his gap against a sitting president on foreign policy significantly. But in 2016, Obama won't be on the ballot, and Clinton is already working hard to distance herself from the perceived failures of the team she was a part of.

"Clinton is probably obsessing too much about distancing herself from Obama, and the Republicans are probably obsessing too much about tying her to Obama," said Kristol. "There has to be more focus on what are you going to do. It's going to be more forward-looking than backward-looking, ultimately."

Running to the right for GOP presidential candidates makes sense for the primary. Paul will corner the market for Republican isolationists, who will still be a distinct minority within the party. But in the general election, the nominee will have to decide what being more hawkish than Clinton would really mean, and how conservative a foreign policy the country is really asking for.

Josh Rogin is a Bloomberg View columnist.

## OPINION

## Assess 'Selma' by connection it enhances

By JOHN LEWIS

**T**he role of art in our society is not to re-enact history but to offer an interpretation of human experience as seen through the eyes of the artist. The philosopher Aristotle says it best: "The aim of art is to represent not the outward appearance of things, but their inner significance."

The movie "Selma" is a work of art. It conveys the inner significance of the ongoing struggle for human dignity in America, a cornerstone of our identity as a nation. It breaks through our too-often bored and uninformed perception of our history, and it confronts us with the real human drama our nation struggled to face 50 years ago.

And "Selma" does more than bring history to life; it enlightens our understanding of our lives today. It proves the efficacy of nonviolent action and civic engagement, especially when government seems unresponsive. With poignant grace, it demonstrates that Occupy, inconvenient protests and die-ins that disturb our daily routine reflect a legacy of resistance that led many to struggle and die for justice, not centuries ago, but in our lifetimes. It reminds us that the day could be approaching when that price will be required again.

But now this movie is being weighed down with a responsibility it cannot possibly bear. Its portrayal of President Lyndon B. Johnson's role in the Selma marches has been called into question. And yet one two-hour movie cannot tell all the stories encompassed in three years of history. It is the true scope of the Selma campaign. It does not portray every element of the story, Bloody Sunday, or even the life of Martin Luther King Jr. We do not demand



DAVID GOLDMAN/AP

Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., center, wipes away a tear as actor David Oyelowo, who portrays the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in the movie "Selma," speaks during a service honoring King at Ebenezer Baptist Church, where King preached, Monday in Atlanta.

completeness of other historical dramas, so why is it required of this film?

"Lincoln," for example, was a masterpiece, a fine representation of what it takes to pass a bill. It did not, however, even mention Frederick Douglass or the central role of the abolitionists, who were all pivotal to the passage of the 13th Amendment. For some historians that may be a glaring error, but we accept these omissions as a

matter of perspective and the historical editing needed to tell a coherent story. "Selma" must be afforded the same artistic license.

Were any of the Selma marches the brainchild of President Johnson? Absolutely not. If a man is chained to a chair, does anyone need to tell him he should struggle to be free? The truth is the marches occurred mainly due to the extraordinary vi-

sion of the ordinary people of Selma, who were determined to win the right to vote, and it is their will that made a way.

As for Johnson's taped phone conversation about Selma with King, the president knew he was recording himself, so maybe he was tempted to verbally stack the deck about his role in Selma in his favor. The facts, however, do not bear out the assertion that Selma was his idea. I know. I was there. Don't get me wrong, in my view, Johnson is one of this country's great presidents, but he did not direct the civil rights movement.

This film is a spark that has ignited interest in an era we must not forget if we are to move forward as a nation. It is already serving as a bridge to a long-overdue conversation on race, inequality and injustice in this country today. It may well become a touchstone, a turning point for another generation of activists who will undertake the next evolutionary push for justice in America.

It would be a tragic error if Hollywood muted its praise for a film because it is too much a story and not enough an academic exercise.

Whenever I have a tough vote in Congress, I ask myself what would leaders of courage do? What would King and Robert Kennedy do? What is the right thing to do? What is the fair and honest thing to do?

The people have already spoken. They are marching to the theaters, arrested by the drama of this film, moved by ideas too long left to languish, driven by their feet and erupting in enthusiastic applause.

Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., one of the leaders of one of the Selma marches, is portrayed in "Selma." He has been a member of Congress since 1987. This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

## States' voting rights laws headed in wrong direction

By REKHA BASU

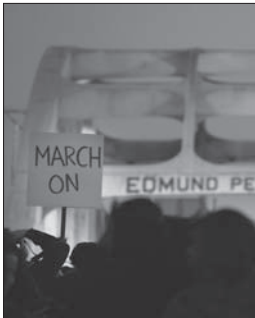
The Des Moines (Iowa) Register

**O**ne of the most painful scenes in Ava DuVernay's film, "Selma," about Martin Luther King Jr.'s protest marches in Selma, Ala., shows nurse Annie Lee Cooper, played by Oprah Winfrey, being turned away from registering to vote because she can't name the state's 67 county judges. Such plays to block black people from voting were used in the South even after the 1964 Civil Rights Act. They ensured that unequal laws and systems endured, since elected officials were answerable only to the whites who had elected them. It took the Voting Rights Act in 1965 to make that civil right binding. Yet today that victory that legends of volunteers fought for is under attack.

Last year the U.S. Supreme Court upheld a Texas law to require voters to show photo ID cards. The law had been challenged by the U.S. Justice Department and struck down by a federal judge who said 600,000 registered voters in Texas had no government-issued ID, and that blacks were twice as likely as whites to not have one.

But the law was upheld by a federal Court of Appeals. Texas found ammunition in a 2013 Supreme Court ruling, Shelby County (Ala.) v. Holder, striking down a section of the Voting Rights Act that had required states with a history of voter discrimination to get federal approval before changing voting procedures. Various states have responded with new voting restrictions.

"If you live in rural Mississippi, and you have no license, you have no ID," said Patti Miller, who just completed a documentary about the role of Iowans in the 1964 Free-



BRYNN ANDERSON/AP

Marchers hold up a "March On" sign as they make their way toward the Edmund Pettus Bridge in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. on Sunday in Selma, Ala.

dom Summer. She noted that Hispanics in urban areas face the same problem. "Iowans Return to Freedom Summer" depicts five young white people, including Miller, who grew up in overwhelmingly white Iowa and answered a call from the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee to aid desegregation efforts in Mississippi. They were among 700 college students from around the country who flocked to Mississippi to help register black voters, teach black children in Freedom

Schools and organize community centers. The experiences were life-changing.

"I'm not sure if that sense of purpose has happened since," Miller reflected at a preview of her film Monday. "It affects everything you do, your attitudes and outlook on life."

For Marcia Moore, one of the Freedom Summer volunteers, seeing how hard Mississippi fought to keep black people down brought tough reckonings about her own country. Richard Beymer (who subsequently played Tony in "West Side Story") found that summer a joyful time, even though "we were at war, in a sense." He lived with seven other civil rights workers in a rented house without indoor toilet or shower, all resolute about confronting racism. Stephen L. Smith never fully got over a severe beating at the hands of Mississippi police. Yet he remained politically active, becoming the first American to burn his draft card. All reflect on their experiences in Miller's film.

There were disagreements within the SNCC about including white students, Miller recalls. "A lot felt it should be only blacks. But whenever white people were involved, the press covered it."

The white students' activism also "lit a fire" that prompted black people to start protesting, observes Lenray Gandy, a black Mississippi native, in Miller's film. The movie depicts a Mississippi that didn't just force blacks and whites to use separate drinking fountains and waiting rooms, but where black people weren't allowed to try on shoes at the shoe store. A black man couldn't walk down a street where a white woman was walking. Blacks couldn't sit in the front of a bus and were expected to

keep their eyes downcast when addressing whites.

But the deprivation that ensured all the others stayed in place was being unable to vote. Registrars would use a 95-question test to reject prospective black voters, according to Shel Stromquist, now a professor emeritus from the University of Iowa who took part in the Freedom Summer and appears in the film.

Miller formed the Keeping History Alive Foundation because, as the saying goes, those who can't remember the past are condemned to repeat it. But remembering may not be the problem for politicians enacting current voting restrictions. More likely they see some political advantage to suppressing the minority vote. So the question is whether fair-minded Americans will insist that Congress pass legislative fixes to ensure all qualified Americans have their voices heard.

Miller will forever be affected by the power of committed black and white people living, cooking, eating, working and risking their lives together. She went on to work with King's organization in Chicago. So it's disheartening for her to visit college campuses these days and see black and white students self-segregate in dining halls.

It's easy to get complacent about battles won or lost. But rights not secured can be eroded or lost. Celebrating King's birthday, as we do this week, shouldn't just mean reflecting on how far we've come, but on where we're going, and what it will take to stay on track.

Rekha Basu is a Des Moines Register columnist.





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## Pro football

### NFL playoffs

**Saturday, Jan. 10**  
Carolina 20, Arizona 16  
Baltimore 30, Pittsburgh 17  
**Sunday**  
Indianapolis 26, Cincinnati 10  
Dallas 24, Detroit 20

### Divisional Playoffs

**Saturday, Jan. 10**  
New England 35, Baltimore 31  
Seattle 31, Carolina 11

### Conference Championships

**Sunday, Jan. 11**  
Green Bay 26, Dallas 21  
Indianapolis 24, Denver 17

### Pro Bowl rosters

**Sunday, Jan. 25**  
At University of Phoenix Stadium  
**Offense**  
QB: Tom Brady, New England  
RB: Matt Ryan, Atlanta  
WR: Dezhaushaus, New Orleans  
TE: Rob Gronkowski, New England  
OL: Matt Ryan, Atlanta  
DL: Matt Ryan, Atlanta  
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P: Matt Ryan, Atlanta  
Special Teams: Matt Ryan, Atlanta

### Pro Bowl rosters

**Sunday, Jan. 25**  
At University of Phoenix Stadium  
**Offense**  
QB: Tom Brady, New England  
RB: Matt Ryan, Atlanta  
WR: Dezhaushaus, New Orleans  
TE: Rob Gronkowski, New England  
OL: Matt Ryan, Atlanta  
DL: Matt Ryan, Atlanta  
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P: Matt Ryan, Atlanta  
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## Tennis

### Australian Open

**Wednesday**  
At Melbourne Park  
Melbourne, Australia, 6-3, 6-2, 6-1

**Purse: \$33.2 million (Grand Slam)**  
Surface: Hard-Outdoor

### Second Round

**Men**  
Tomas Berdych (7), Czech Republic, vs. Jürgen Melzer, Austria, 7-6 (0), 6-2, 6-2

Marcus Baghdatis, Cyprus, vs. David Goffin (20), Belgium, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4

Viktor Troicki, Serbia, vs. Leonardo Mayer (26), Argentina, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4

Richard Gasquet (24), France, vs. James Duckworth, Australia, 6-2, 6-3, 7-5

Andy Murray (6), Britain, vs. Marin Matic, Australia, 6-1, 6-3, 6-2

Nick Kyrgios, Australia, vs. Roger Federer (14), Switzerland, vs. Simone Bolelli (14), Italy, 6-3, 6-2, 6-2

Ricardo Beres, Lithuania, 6-2, 6-2, 7-6 (3)

Joao Sousa, Portugal, vs. Martin Kilian (32), Slovakia, 4-6, 7-4, 6-4, 1-0, retired

Roger Federer (12), Switzerland, vs. Simone Bolelli (14), Italy, 6-3, 6-2, 6-2

Simone Bolelli (14), Italy, vs. Jiri Vesely (10), Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-7 (10), 6-3, 6-2

Sam Groth, Australia, vs. Thomas Kokkinakis, Australia, 3-6, 6-3, 7-5, 3-6, 6-1

Andreas Seppi (14), Italy, vs. Jeremy Chardy (29), France, 7-5, 3-6, 6-2, 6-1

Nick Kyrgios, Australia, vs. Jiri Vesely (10), Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-7 (10), 6-3, 6-2

Matek Jaziri, Tunisia, vs. Edouard Roger-Vasselin, France, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3

Rafael Nadal (3), Spain, vs. Tim Smyczek, United States, 6-2, 3-6, 6-7 (2), 6-3

Bernard Tomic, Australia, vs. Philipp Kohlschreiber (22), Germany, 6-7 (5), 6-4, 6-3, 6-2

### Women

**Second Round**  
Ekaterina Makarova (10), Russia, vs. Roberta Vinci, Italy, 6-2, 6-4, 6-3

Peng Shuai (21), China, vs. Christina Hergulova (21), Czech Republic, 6-1, 6-1

Carina Witthöft, Germany, vs. Magdalena Linette, Poland, 6-3, 6-2, 6-2

Monica Puig, Puerto Rico, 6-2, 6-7 (6), 6-3

Lucy Kerslake, Australia, vs. Jarmila Gajdosova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2

Irina-Camela Begu, Romania, vs. Karolina Siniakova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2

Caroline Piskovic (22), Czech Republic, vs. Olga Danilovic, Serbia, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2

Polina Hercova, Slovenia, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2

Maria Sharapova (2), Russia, vs. Alexandra Dulgheru, Romania, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2

Sara Errani (14), Italy, vs. Silvia Soler, Spain, 7-6 (3), 6-3, 6-2

Caroline Garcia, France, vs. Stefanie Voegele (10), Switzerland, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2

Zarina Diyas (31), Kazakhstan, vs. Anna Schmiedlovova, Slovakia, 3-6, 6-2, 6-6

Yanina Wickmayer, Belgium, vs. Lara Arruabarrena, Spain, 6-4, 6-3, 6-2

Bethanie Mattek-Sands, United States, vs. Jarmila Gajdosova, Czech Republic, 7-6 (3), 6-2

Eugenie Bouchard (7), Canada, vs. Kiki Bertens, Netherlands, 6-0, 6-3

Simona Halep (3), Romania, vs. Jarmila Gajdosova, Czech Republic, 6-2, 6-2

### Doubles

**First Round**  
Pablo Carreno Busta and Guillermo Garcia-Lopez, Spain, vs. Jarmila Gajdosova and Jiri Vesely, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2

Dominic Inglot, Britain, and Florin Mergea, Romania, vs. Jarmila Gajdosova and Jiri Vesely, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2

Omar Jasika and John-Patrick Smith, Australia, vs. Ramon Julian Panatta and Adrian Panatta, France, 6-2, 6-2

Raven Klaassen, South Africa, and Leander Paes, India, vs. Scott Lipsky and Rajeev Ram, United States, 6-4, 7-6 (5)

### Boxing

#### Fight schedule

**Jan. 26**  
At Cowboys Casino, San Antonio, Rocky Juarez vs. Robinson Castellanos, 10, 10, 10

**Jan. 30**  
At Foxwoods Resort, Mashantucket, Conn., vs. Tony Louis, 10, 10, 10

**Feb. 6**  
At Beau Rivage Resort & Casino, Biloxi, Miss., vs. Paul Sergio, 12, for Taylor's IBF middleweight title

**Feb. 13**  
At the Mohawk Sun in Uncasville, Conn., Boxco Quarterfinals-Junior Middleweight bout vs. Cleo Hightower, 12

Pinnell: Stanislav Skorkhodov vs. Michael Moore: Brandon Adams vs. Alize Perez: Vito Gagliardi vs. John Harte, 12

**Feb. 14**  
At Tepic, Mexico, David Sanchez vs. Juan Alberto Rosales, 12, for the interim WBA super flyweight title

**Feb. 20**  
At Turning Stone Resort Casino in Verona, N.Y., Boccino Quarterfinal Heavyweights: Donovan Dennis vs. Steve Lukers: Razvan Cojano vs. Ed Fountain; 12

Alex Bolt and Andrew Whittington, Australia, vs. Marin Draganja, Croatia, and Henri Kontinen (15), Finland, 7-6 (4), 6-3

Jamie Murray, Britain, and John Peers (16), Australia, vs. Maximo Gonzalez and Juan Monaco, Argentina, 6-1, 6-7 (4), 6-3

Alisan Krajkovic and Donald Young, United States, vs. Marcel Granollers and Gerard Pique, Spain, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3

Marc Lopez (3), Spain, 7-6 (5), 6-2, 7-5

John Dodds, Great Britain, vs. Jiri Vesely (10), Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-4, 1-6

(4), Brazil, vs. Andre Begemann, Germany, and Robin Haase, Netherlands, 7-6 (3), 6-3, 6-2

Bob and Mike Bryan (1), United States, vs. Alexander Bublik and Mikhail Kukushkin, Kazakhstan, 6-7 (7), 6-3, 6-3

Jonathan Rogers, Uruguay, and David Marrero, Spain, vs. Jonathan Murray, Britain, and Sergiy Stakhovsky, Ukraine, 7-6 (3), 6-3

Alisan-ul-Haq Qureshi, Pakistan, and Nenad Zimonjic (8), Serbia, vs. Teymuraz Gabashvili, Russia, and Mikhail Kukushkin, Kazakhstan, 6-7 (7), 6-3, 6-3

Chris Guccione and Lleyton Hewitt, Australia, vs. Federico Delbosco, Argentina, and Albert Ramos-Vinolas, Spain, 6-3, 6-3

Jonathan Erlich, Israel, and Treat Huey, Philippines, vs. Dusan Lajovic, Serbia, and Yen-Hsun Lu, Taiwan, 6-3, 6-3

Benjamin Becker, Germany, and Artem Sitak, New Zealand, vs. Gilles Muller, Luxembourg, and Igor Sijsling, Netherlands, 6-3, 6-3

Julian Knowle, Austria, and Vasek Pospisil, Canada, vs. Jiri Vesely (10), Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3

Struff, Germany, and Dominic Thiem, Austria, 7-6 (3), 3-6, 7-6 (4)

### First Round

Hsieh Yu-wen, Taiwan, vs. Sandra Mirza (2), India, vs. Maria Irigoyen, Argentina, and Maria Kirilovic, Switzerland, 6-0, 6-0

Gabriela Dabrowski, Canada, and Alicja Rosolska, Poland, vs. Cara Black, Zimbabwe, and Zheng Saisai, China, 6-1, 6-4

Svetlana Kuznetsova, Russia, and Sam Querrey, Australia, vs. Chan Hao-ching, Taiwan, and Kveta Peschke (8), Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-2

Mona Barthel, Germany, and Mandi Strydom, South Africa, vs. Olga Danilovic, Serbia, and Karina Siniakova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-4

Klaudia Jankovic, Poland, and Arantxa Parra Santonja, Spain, 7-6 (5), 5-7, 6-2

Daria Gavrilina, Russia, vs. Olga Danilovic, Serbia, and Karina Siniakova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-4

Olivia Rogowska, Australia, vs. Daria Gavrilina, Russia, and Sam Querrey, Australia, 6-3, 6-4

Bel Medina Garrigues, Spain, and Yaroslava Shvedova (11), Kazakhstan, vs. Irina Flavia, United States, and Peaches Keizer, United States, 6-3, 6-4

Kimiko Date-Krumm, Japan, and Casey Dellacqua, Australia, vs. Maria Irigoyen, Argentina, and Yu Xi-Fan, China, 4-6, 7-5, 7-6 (5)

Anna Karolína Schmiedlovova, Slovakia, and Donna Vecchi, Croatia, vs. Alize Cornet and Pauline Parmentier, France, 4-6, 6-2

Alicia Kudryavtseva and Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, Russia, vs. Olga Danilovic, Serbia, and Karina Siniakova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-4

Ayumi Moriyama, Japan, and Renata Voracova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-4

Martina Hingis, Switzerland, and Flavia Pennetta (4), Italy, vs. Belinda Bencic, Switzerland, and Karina Siniakova, Czech Republic, 7-6 (3), 6-2

Lucy Kerslake, Australia, and Carla Suarez Navarro (6), Spain, vs. Varvara Lepchenko and Anna Tatishvili, United States, 6-3, 6-2

Vitalia Diatchenko, Russia, and Monica Niculescu, Romania, vs. Alize Cornet and Pauline Parmentier, France, 4-6, 6-2

Michelle Krajcek, Netherlands, and Monica Niculescu, Romania, vs. Alize Cornet and Pauline Parmentier, France, 4-6, 6-2

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Michelle Krajcek, Netherlands, and Monica Niculescu, Romania

# HIGH SCHOOL: DODDS PACIFIC

# Salinas fits in and fills hole at Kadena

But leaving a King wrestling program he was helping build was hard for senior

By DAVE ORNAUER  
Stars and Stripes

KADENA AIR BASE, Okinawa — Ricardo Salinas III spent several seconds circling his foe before making his big move, a double-leg lift that sent Kubasaki sophomore Brenden Miracle over his head and down to the mat.

Referee Columbus Wilson II signaled a four-point throw.

In the corner, Salinas' coach, Steve Schrock, normally serious at all times, could not suppress a small smile.

"His level change and penetration and just the strength to pick up his opponent into a full standing lift was kind of cool to see," he said. "It was fun to watch."

It was the first time in the Panthers lineup for Salinas, a senior who was an anchor in the E.J. King lineup the past two seasons. He transferred in mid-December to Kadena and filled what Schrock said was a hole at 168 pounds.

"He brings a whole new set of competitiveness ... for the upper middles, the 180, 168, 158," Schrock said. "They all have it. The better practice partners you have, the better you're going to be. We have knockdown-drag outs in practice and Ricky has just added to that."

It helped, both Schrock and Salinas said, that he'd already had a summer full of workouts with sailor-wrestlers, some of whom have competed for the Navy, and that Salinas went 10-0 in two DODDS Japan competitions before arriving on Okinawa.

"He was prepared well," Schrock said. "He has great technique. His maturity. He's been a real asset and a great addition to the team. I thank E.J. King for that."

And that's where mixed emotions enter the picture.

Schrock might see Salinas falling into his lap as an early Christmas present. And Salinas said he was happy that he could help — immediately — a Kadena team that's won six Far East titles, but he confessed it was "heartbreaking" to leave his Cobras wrestling family behind.

When he stepped on the mat against Miracle at Kubasaki on Jan. 14, "it was hard to see me in the colors, instead of what I'm



DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

Kadena's Ricardo Salinas lifts Kubasaki's Brenden Miracle in the 168-pound match on Jan. 14. Salinas won by pin in 39 seconds in his debut in a Kadena Panthers uniform after transferring from E.J. King during the Christmas break.

used to," Salinas said. "Being here is very hard on me. It's sometimes very heart-breaking to see that it's a different team."

Kadena was not a likely destination, Salinas said, when it came time for his stepfather, Navy Chief Petty Officer Royce Parfait, to transfer from Sasebo Naval Base, Virginia, it appeared, was the likely destination, and Salinas said he'd spent the summer preparing against sailor-wrestlers experienced in folkstyle, used in the States.

He'd even spent time recruiting for the Cobras, helping boost their lineup to record levels, when word came that Salinas would ultimately head for Okinawa.

"This is the biggest team I've ever been on," said Salinas of the nearly 40 in the Panthers wrestling room. "There were so many new faces. It was nerve-wracking; they'd never seen me wrestle and I'd never seen them wrestle."

In very short order, he's been made welcome to the Panthers, his teammates and coach said.

"Ricky helps to improve others along with himself and tries to better those

around him the best way he knows how," Panthers junior 158-pounder Dominic Santanelli said. "It's great having a guy like him on your side because of the hard work he brings for us."

Even those who wrestle at lower weights say they've felt Salinas' early influence. "He's shown me a few good pointers and taught me different techniques to moves that he's learned," senior 108-pounder Tasi Duenas said. "He's also been able to give our team feedback on some of the teams [in Japan] and how they wrestle."

Salinas' departure from E.J. King did leave a vacancy there, but the Cobras this season are fielding 11 wrestlers, up from four last year, the most in coaches Joe and Jennifer Cockerel's five seasons at the helm. "The program is going," said Jennifer, the team's DODDS sponsor.

"We do miss him. If he'd stayed, we'd have had a better shot" at a Far East Division II title, Jennifer Cockerel said. "If I could have kept him a few more months, I would have. We look forward to seeing him even if in different colors."

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DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

Ricky Salinas, top, works with practice partner Adrian Pinero on Tuesday. "He brings a whole new set of competitiveness ... for the upper middles," coach Steve Schrock said.

## Top performances

### Boys basketball

**Myles Haynes, Seoul American:** Averaged 13 points, five steals and six assists in two games, both victories, and helped the Falcons remain unbeaten on the season.

**Nicholas White, Osan:** Scored 33 points in a loss to Seoul American, the Cougars' first of the season, but improving his DODDS Pacific-leading scoring average to 30.5 points per game.

**Joone Abaya, Daegu:** Junior guard averaged 18 points in two games, both Warriors losses, but the two closest games the team has played this season.

**Jamario Harris, Kadena:** Averaged 11.4 points per game as his team went 5-3 and was the only Panther named to the All-Tournament team in the Martin Luther King Invitational Basketball Tournament.

**Nick Ashley, Kubasaki:** Averaged 12.4 points over eight games to help the Dragons finish fourth in the MLK.

### Girls basketball

**Glenesha Berryman, Seoul American:** Averaged 8 rebounds in two games, both victories, helping the Falcons remain unbeaten in their last

eight games.

**Taylor Myatt, Daegu:** Senior post player continued her recent surge by averaging 15.5 points and 11 rebounds in two games, both Warriors losses.

**Jasmine Rhodes, Kadena:** Averaged 12.4 points per game in helping lead the Panthers to their third MLK Tournament finals appearance in the last four years and was named All-Tournament.

### Wrestling

**Jack Barnes, Seoul American:** Defending Far East 215-pound champion won two bouts, one

by technical fall, the other by pin, to remain unbeaten on the season and keep the Falcons unbeaten as a team.

**Ricky Salinas, Kadena:** Won his Okinawa debut by pin at 168 pounds, making him 11-0 on the season, including 10 victories in DODDS Japan competition before transferring to Okinawa.

**De Taylor, Kinick:** Won three times, twice by technical fall and once by pin, to stay unbeaten in 2015 — in his first season on the mat — and help the Red Devils defend their Kanto regular-season title.

## HIGH SCHOOL: DODDS EUROPE

## Top performances

## Boys basketball

**Robert Braswell, Patch:** The fast-rising new Panthers star had something of a breakout weekend in wins over Wiesbaden. Braswell scored 15, including several key fourth-quarter hoops, in Friday's 53-44 win and poured in 20 in Saturday's more comfortable 72-57 victory.

**David Vidovic, Hohenfels:** The Tigers recovered from a Friday loss to Black Forest Academy with a 75-65 overtime victory over the Falcons. Vidovic led the way with 23 points, seven rebounds and six assists.

**Myles Erkins, Lakenheath:** Consistency was the name of the game for the Lancers standout. Erkins scored 14 points on Friday and 15 on Saturday in leading Lakenheath to consecutive routs of SHAPE.

## Girls basketball

**Rebecca Russell, Wiesbaden:** After missing last year's championship game with an injury, the sharpshooting guard has fully returned to her role as the Warriors' offensive catalyst. She continued to round into form over the weekend, scoring a combined 26 points in consecutive romps over Patch.

**Rezana Todman, Ramstein:** The Royals weakened Vilseck's homestead behind Todman's all-around efforts. The guard went for 12 points, eight rebounds and six steals Friday and 10 points, four steals and three assists Saturday.

**Emily Campbell, Black Forest Academy:** The All-Europe senior centerpiece of the defending Division II champions led the Falcons past a tough rival over the weekend. Campbell posted a combined 32 points and 13 rebounds in Friday and Saturday defeats of Hohenfels.

## Wrestling

**Chris Dufresne and Nick Dufresne, Alconbury:** The Dragons couldn't compete with the overall depth of Ramstein and Lakenheath, but the Dufresne brothers made sure the school didn't come away empty. Chris won the 195-pound bracket and Nick did the same at 182 to lead Alconbury's lone weight-class wins.

## Marksmanship

**Kaitlyn Carson and Ryan Roberts, Ansbach:** The Cougars duo took first and second place, respectively, in last week's five-team remote meet. Carson's 279 points earned a meet-best 98 from prone position, while Roberts paced the field with a kneeling 95 en route to a 276-point showing.

## Hoops teams get set for trek meets

## Events offer rare chance to face division rivals from other countries

By GREGORY BROOME  
Stars and Stripes

For a long time in DODDS Europe athletics, the term "division" has had two distinct meanings.

First, there is the widely-known and accepted definition: a grouping as a platform for fair competition. Similarly-sized schools are placed in the same division and compete for a championship on relatively equal footing, at least in terms of student-body population. As an example, large schools such as Kaiserslautern and Wiesbaden play for one European title, while small schools like Baumholder and Brussels play for another.

There is also, however, another division in DODDS Europe. This refers to the circumstances, largely geographical and financial, that divide schools even in the same division from one another. Perhaps the most prominent example in recent years is the general lack of regular-season games, excepting football, pitting schools based in Italy against schools based anywhere else in DODDS Europe. Another example: annual Division II tournaments comprised of teams that often haven't played one another since the previous year's tournament.

The issue has long stirred conversation in DODDS Europe circles. Now it appears to be stirring action.

This weekend, 14 schools from five European countries will gather for four events that can only be described as basketball meets. The series of Friday and Saturday games — set for Alconbury in the United Kingdom, AFNORTH in Netherlands and Aviano and Vicenza in Italy — will allow teams not based in the DODDS Europe stronghold of Germany an unusual level of access to some of the teams they will eventually face for a European championship.

That's entirely by design, DODDS Europe athletic director Karen Seadore said, and a direct result of the sweeping realignment that, among other changes,

moved Italian teams Naples and Vicenza from Division II to Division I.

"With the realignment of the divisions, schools had requested that they have some regular-season competition against opponents in their division," Seadore said. "This year we tried to provide at least one weekend of competition for the schools in Italy."

It's not a comprehensive solution. While American Overseas School of Rome, Aviano, Naples and Vicenza will all face foreign opponents this weekend, Division III Sigonella will host Marymount as part of a regular-season schedule comprised entirely of other Italian teams.

But coaches agree that it is progress.

"I think these multi-team matchups are extremely important. I'm very much looking forward to playing teams that we usually don't get to see until the tournament," Aviano girls coach Laura Corder said. "These matchups are going to be a really great experience for our team."

Aviano will host three Division II rivals this weekend, including German programs Ansbach and Hohenfels along with AOSR. Hohenfels boys coach Kathleen Clemmons said she's also in favor of the arrangement.

"It is always an advantage to see your competition in terms of preparation," Clemmons said.

Elsewhere in Italy, Naples and host Vicenza will take on German schools Patch and Vilseck. Naples girls coach Shelley Smith said the games are a welcome addition to a schedule that mostly features Division II and III in-country opponents.

"This should help us have a more realistic view of what our competition will be like in the European tournament," Smith said. "This is the kind of competition we need."

Vilseck boys coach John Sabala called this weekend's Italian excursion "a bonus for all involved."



KENT HARRIS/Stars and Stripes

Aviano's Victoria Vigil goes to the basket while defended by Naples' Keylee Soto in a Dec. 12 game at Aviano Air Base, Italy. Both players will be in action this weekend against teams from Germany making rare visits south of the Alps.

"The more Division I opponents we face, the better we are come tournament time," Sabala said.

While this weekend was designed primarily to further incorporate Italian teams into the DODDS Europe mix, a similar dynamic will play out in northern Europe. Rota will travel from Spain to the Netherlands to face Bitburg and host AFNORTH in the only regular-season DODDS Europe games on its schedule. Meanwhile, Baumholder and Menwith Hill will converge in Alconbury in a three-way Division III set, though Menwith Hill doesn't field a girls team.

Baumholder girls coach Matt Martinez is happy for his team to participate.

"It is always nice knowing what to expect and what you will be up against come tournament time," Martinez said.

But Martinez, a former athletic director at England-based Division I school Lakenheath, would like to see the concept deployed even further. His Bucs still navigate a schedule that stresses geographic convenience over school-size equality, and will play a home-and-home series with Division I Kaiserslautern next

month to conclude its regular-season slate. Baumholder's other opponents this year include Division II AFNORTH, Bitburg and Black Forest Academy and Division III Brussels.

"The Bucs' near-constant underdog status can affect player morale," Martinez said. "It still would be nice to face more Division II teams and even the smaller Division III schools," Martinez said. "Teaching and learning would be a ton easier if we could possibly see some immediate results from the labor the kids put into the program."

More events like this weekend's basketball meets would further address the lingering concerns Martinez laid out. DODDS Europe scheduling is trending in that direction, though Seadore wouldn't commit before the coming soccer, baseball and softball seasons.

"For the spring, we are looking at a similar format for the Italy schools," Seadore said. "Beyond that, I have no idea what the 2015-16 school year will bring with regard to funding."

"One season at a time."

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## AUSTRALIAN OPEN

## Sharapova, Nadal escape 2nd round scares

Federer loses first set, but rallies to advance to third round of Open

By JOHN PYE

The Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Rafael Nadal dropped to his knees, clasping his hands tightly and appearing to be on the verge of tears as he celebrated a win at the Australian Open.

The 14-time Grand Slam champion has played some epic matches on Rod Laver Arena, including an almost six-hour final. This was a comeback second-round win over U.S. qualifier Tim Smyczek, a player ranked No. 112 who had never beaten a top 10 player.

The 6-2, 3-6, 6-7 (2), 6-3, 7-5 win Wednesday was a breakthrough of sorts for the third-seeded Nadal, who came into the first major of the season after playing just four tournaments since Wimbledon due to a right wrist injury and appendix surgery.

At the end of the third game of the third set, Nadal called for assistance and was given medication for stomach pain. At times in the match he was doubled over in pain, seemingly on the verge of sickness or exhaustion.

Yet he pulled through, earning the only break of the fifth set in the 11th game and then serving it out — after wasting three match points — in 4 hours, 12 minutes.

Smyczek pushed Nadal to the limits, and played fair. When a spectator screamed out as Nadal tossed the ball for his serve at 30-0 in the last game, the American insisted Nadal replay the serve.

"Very tough night for me. Just first of all I want to congratulate Tim — he's a real gentleman," Nadal said. "What he did in the last game is ... not a lot of people will do something like this at 6-5 in the fifth set."

No. 2-ranked Maria Sharapova saved two match points before es-

caping with a 6-1, 4-6, 7-5 second-round win over fellow Russian Alexandra Panova, a qualifier ranked No. 150.

Roger Federer dropped the first set and needed medical advice on his sore right pinkie finger — scolding a camera operator by saying "Do you have to be that close?" — before beating Simone Bolelli 3-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-2 to reach the third round.

Sharapova made 51 unforced errors as she went for the lines, but kept swinging hard and saved some of her best ground strokes for when she needed them.

She faced match point twice in the 10th game of the third set, stepping into a return winner on a weak second serve and later ripping a forehand winner deep into the corner against Panova, who entered the Australian Open without a single match win at five previous majors.

The only Grand Slam champion remaining in her half of the draw, Sharapova next plays No. 31 Zarina Diyas.

In a late match that started just before midnight because of the extended Nadal five-setter, French Open finalist and third-seeded Simona Halep beat Jarmila Gajdosova 6-2, 6-2.

No. 7 Eugenie Bouchard, who reached the semifinals or better at three of the four majors in 2014, needed just 54 minutes to beat Kiki Bertens 6-0, 6-3. Also advancing were No. 10 Ekaterina Makarova, No. 21 Peng Shuai and No. 22 Karolina Pliskova.

Federer was bothered by pain in his right hand, and took a medical timeout after the first set, before recovering to beat No. 48 Bolelli.

Three-time Australian Open finalist Andy Murray wasn't bothered by anything, particularly



ROB GRIFFITH/AP

**Maria Sharapova reaches for a backhand return during her second round match against compatriot Alexandra Panova in Melbourne, Australia, on Wednesday. Sharapova won 6-1, 4-6, 7-5.**

the parochial crowd, as he beat Melbourne's Marinko Matosevic 6-1, 6-3, 6-2.

Seventh-seeded Tomas Berdych advanced along with No. 10 Grigor Dimitrov, No. 14 Kevin Anderson and No. 24 Richard Gasquet.

Seven of the men's seeds were defeated — among them, 2006 Australian Open finalist Marcos Baghdatis beat No. 20 David Goffin and Bernard Tomic had a late 6-7 (5), 6-4, 7-6 (6), 7-6 (5) win over No. 22 Philipp Kohlschreiber.

Australian teenager Nick Kyrgios — who was a wild card ranked No. 144 when he beat Nadal in the fourth round at Wimbledon last year — beat No. 23 Ivo Karlovic in a four-set match featuring a combined 65 aces, 40 by the loser.



LEE JIN-MAN/AP

**Rafael Nadal makes a forehand return to Tim Smyczek on Wednesday. Nadal advanced to the third round with a 6-2, 3-6, 6-7 (2), 6-3, 7-5 victory.**

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Mercedes-Benz

NBA

# Testing ground

## NBA turning to D-League for experimentation, innovation

By Antonio Gonzalez  
The Associated Press

**D**SANTA CRUZ, Calif. David Arseneault Jr. thought nothing of the email when it first appeared in his inbox.

The message from Dean Oliver, the Sacramento Kings' director of player personnel and analytics, just seemed like another inquiry about the quirky system his father ran at tiny Grinnell College. Little did Arseneault know that the Kings had been targeting him as a candidate to coach their NBA Development League affiliate, the Reno Bighorns, for a unique basketball experiment.

"I called him, and he asked if I had interest in the job. I said, 'The head coaching job?'" Arseneault said, recalling the story during the D-League Showcase that concludes Monday night in Santa Cruz. "He said, 'Yes,'" I said. "Of course I have interest." I was shocked. I was a 28-year-old, part-time assistant coach at a Division III school in the middle of Iowa."

Arseneault's addition is the latest — and perhaps most unconventional — example of how NBA franchises are increasingly using their minor-league team as a testing ground for new ideas.

Since it started in 2001, the D-League has been focused on fostering and funneling talent to the NBA. That's come mostly in the form of personnel, with the league's most recent count tallying 139 players, 29 assistant coaches and two head coaches — Memphis' Dave Joergic, and Utah's Quin Snyder — currently on NBA rosters with D-League experience.

With 17 of 30 NBA franchises affiliated with one lower-tier club now, the expanding partnerships are allowing the D-League to become a melting pot for innovation.

Arseneault and his father, David Arseneault Sr., got the attention of the Kings in 2012 when Jack Taylor scored an NCAA-record 138 points in Grinnell's 179-104 victory over Faith Baptist Bible. Arseneault Jr. was the de facto head coach the past few years, though his dad held the official title.

Now he has the Bighorns averaging 140 points per game in what has simply become known as The System. The general principles are to shoot within 12 sec-



PHOTOS BY MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/AP

**Above:** A coach draws up a play during an NBA Development League basketball game between the Reno Bighorns and Westchester Knicks in Santa Cruz, Calif. With 17 of 30 NBA franchises affiliated with one lower-tier club now, the expanding partnerships are allowing the D-League to become a melting pot for innovation. **Top:** Reno head coach David Arseneault Jr. talks to his team during a time out. Arseneault was hired based on the quirky system his father ran at Grinnell College. Now he has the Bighorns averaging 140 points per game.

onds, apply a full-court pressure defense, substitute all five players every couple of minutes and attempt a ton of three-pointers.

"Organized chaos," he calls it. Arseneault said he communicates with Sacramento's front office daily, including Oliver. Kings general manager Pete D'Alessandro, assistant general manager Mike Bratz, and scouting coordinator and Bighorns assistant general manager Chris Gilbert.

"The ultimate goal is to provide the Sacramento Kings with something that they can use at the highest level of basketball," Arseneault said.

The Kings, through a team spokesman, declined to comment on the system. But they've hardly been the only franchise taking a trial-and-error attitude with their D-League team.

Last year, the Houston Rockets

hired Nevada Smith — then just 33 years old — from Division III Keystone College in La Plume, Pa., to lead their D-League affiliate, the Rio Grande Valley Vipers.

The Rockets, led by general manager Daryl Morey, were interested in Smith because of the way his team relied almost entirely on 3s and layups. They've used Rio Grande Valley, which attempted a league-high 45.4 shots per game from beyond the arc last season, to try out different schemes.

"I think we've had some creative minds," Smith said. "We have some other things we'll do at some point in the season. Kind of saving them right now. You'll have to wait and see. It's kind of crazy, but it's fun."

The Golden State Warriors are fully invested in their D-League club, the Santa Cruz Warriors,

who are owned and operated by the NBA franchise.

Santa Cruz coach Casey Hill spent this summer learning the system Steve Kerr implemented with Golden State. The Warriors, like many teams, want players to know the system at both levels so when they're called up or sent down — as center Ognjen Kuzmic has been often this season — they know what to do.

"It's a tool that we're going to use, and we have used, to make our NBA team better," Warriors general manager Bob Myers said.

With constant call-ups and contract buyouts, the ever-changing rosters in the D-League create the biggest challenges for teams trying to think outside the box.

Arseneault, for instance, was rotating more than 15 players at Grinnell. Now he usually has about 10 players with Reno, and

they're all competing for an NBA contract.

Arseneault, under the direction of the Kings, said he has made subtle adjustments every game. In a 129-119 win over the Westchester Knicks on Friday night, he had one group run the Grinnell system and another group run a traditional system to fit everyone's skills.

Arseneault finds it all fascinating, mostly because he never expected the system his father adopted to ever win games — let alone at the professional level. It was just supposed to inject some fun into a small college team.

"I've told [the Kings], 'Please come to me with any experiments you would like to see,'" Arseneault said. "If we can even provide them with one little thing, one little tweak, I would consider it a success."



# NBA/COLLEGE BASKETBALL

## NBA scoreboard

### Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	27	14	.659	—
Brooklyn	17	24	.415	10
Boston	13	26	.333	13
Philadelphia	8	33	.195	19
New York	6	36	.143	21½

Southeast Division				
Atlanta	34	8	.810	—
Washington	29	13	.690	5
Miami	18	23	.439	15½
Charlotte	17	25	.405	17
Orlando	15	29	.341	20
Central Division				
Chicago	27	16	.628	—
Cleveland	22	20	.524	4½
Milwaukee	21	20	.512	5
Detroit	16	26	.381	10½
Indiana	15	28	.349	12

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct GB	
Chicago	22	20	.524	—
Cleveland	21	20	.512	4½
Milwaukee	16	26	.381	10½
Detroit	15	28	.349	12

Western Conference				
Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct GB	
Memphis	29	12	.707	—
Houston	29	13	.690	½
Dallas	29	13	.690	½
San Antonio	17	26	.628	3
New Orleans	10	21	.488	9

Northwest Division				
	W	L	Pct GB	
Portland	21	11	.738	—
Oklahoma City	21	20	.512	9½
Denver	18	24	.429	13
Utah	14	27	.341	16½
Minnesota	7	33	.175	23

Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct GB	
Golden State	33	6	.846	—
L.A. Clippers	28	14	.667	6½
Phoenix	25	18	.581	10
Sacramento	16	25	.390	18
L.A. Lakers	12	28	.286	22½

### Monday's games

Washington 111, Philadelphia 76  
Charlotte 105, Minnesota 80  
Atlanta 93, Detroit 82  
A. Clippers 102, Boston 93  
Golden State 122, Denver 79  
Dallas 103, Memphis 95  
Houston 110, Indiana 98  
New York 99, New Orleans 92  
Cleveland 108, Chicago 92  
Toronto 92, Milwaukee 89  
Portland 98, Sacramento 94  
Phoenix 115, L.A. Lakers 100

### Tuesday's games

Oklahoma City 94, Miami 86  
San Antonio 109, Denver 99  
Wednesday's games  
New York at Philadelphia  
Philadelphia at Charlotte  
Utah at Cleveland  
Indiana at Atlanta  
Orlando at Detroit  
L.A. Lakers at New Orleans  
Toronto at Memphis  
Dallas at Minnesota  
Oklahoma City at Washington  
Portland at Phoenix  
Brooklyn at Sacramento  
Houston at Golden State  
Thursday's games  
San Antonio at Chicago  
Utah at Milwaukee  
Boston at Portland  
Brooklyn at L.A. Clippers

### Spurs 109, Nuggets 99

San Antonio 109, Leonard 6-13  
17, Duncan 6-10 4-4 16, Splitter 2-4 2-2  
6, Parker 8-16 1-2 18, D.Green 2-12 0-0  
6, Mills 2-0 0-6, Baynes 3-3 9-15, Ginobili  
4-12 2-6 11, Joseph 1-2 0-0 2, Diaw 4-8 0-0  
15, Randolph 1-1 2-3 11, Allen 9-0 0-0  
Ayres 0-0 0-0, Totals 38-84 22-27 109.  
DENVER — Chandler 5-11 1-13, Faried  
9-17 1-28, Nurkic 5-9 0-10, Lawson 2-6  
0-4, Afflalo 6-11 6-8 21, Nelson 4-1 0-0  
0, Hickson 3-8 3-9, Arthur 2-0 0-5, Foye  
1-3 2-5, Totals 37-79 20-29 99.

### Thunder 94, Heat 86

Oklahoma City — Durant 9-24 1-1  
19, Ibaka 4-10 0-0 9, Adams 5-7 0-1 10,  
Westbrook 8-17 3-4 19, Robinson 2-4 0-0  
5, Walters 1-9 1-2 3, Morrow 5-9 0-12,  
6, Tucker 0-0 0-0, Jackson 1-0 0-0,  
Collison 9-0 1-21, Totals 41-92 6-0-94.  
MIAMI — Deng 2-6 3-4 8, Bosh 5-12 5-6  
16, Wright 5-10 0-10, Chalmers 2-3  
1-6, Wade 8-18 2-18, Granger 3-5 1-29,  
Nelson 1-3 5-15, James 1-0 0-7, Cole  
2-5 0-4, Haslem 0-0 0-0, Williams 1-4  
0-10, Totals 38-88 14-26 86.

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## NBA roundup

# Thunder top Heat to get above .500

The Associated Press

MIAMI — Just about every statistic was what the Miami Heat would have wanted.

They kept Kevin Durant and Russell Westbrook off the foul line for the most part, watched Oklahoma City's two stars combine to miss every three-pointer they tried, limited both to under 20 points and held the Thunder far below their typical scoring output of late.

And even that wasn't enough. Durant and Westbrook both scored 19 points and the Thunder beat the Heat 94-86 on Tuesday night — the win putting Oklahoma City over the .500 mark for the first time this season.

"We did a great job of keeping our composure, just playing through the defense," Thunder coach Scott Brooks said.

The stats that doomed the Heat: A 21-11 difference in turnovers, a 22-9 disparity in points off turnovers, and the Thunder getting up 92 shots to Miami's 68.

"To leave a real competitive defensive game like that on the table is pretty disappointing," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said.

Westbrook grabbed 10 rebounds, Durant added eight rebounds and eight assists, Reggie Jackson scored 16 points and Anthony Morrow added 12 for Oklahoma City — who were nine games under .500 in late November, when Durant was still sidelined with a broken foot.

The Thunder are 13-5 with Durant in the lineup, and now winners of 18 of their last 26 — but



The Heat's Shavonne Williams, right, tries to steal the ball from the Thunder's Kevin Durant during the second half Tuesday in Miami. The Thunder won 94-86.

Durant said getting over the .500 mark meant "nothing."

"We have to keep pushing," Durant said. "We're not worried about it. We didn't come in here and rejoice because we're over .500."

Dwyane Wade scored 18 points and Chris Bosh added 16 for Miami, which fell to 7-13 at home.

Durant was 0-for-8 from three-point range — matching the second-worst showing of his career — and the Thunder got to the foul line only 10 times, less than half

their team average coming into the night.

It didn't matter, especially after Miami shot only 42 percent in the final three quarters. Miami had three shots to tie or take the lead in the fourth quarter, all of them missing and the Thunder would eventually pull away.

The game was the exact midpoint of the regular season for both teams. Oklahoma City went 21-20 in its first 41 games, Miami went 18-23.

"Trying," Wade said, when asked to describe the season's first half.

**Spurs 109, Nuggets 99:** Kawhi Leonard had 17 points and 15 rebounds in another strong outing since returning from a hand injury, leading San Antonio to its fourth straight win.

Tony Parker scored 18 points and Tim Duncan added 16, all in the second half, to help the Spurs beat the Nuggets for the fifth straight time.

## College roundup

# Harrison's help Kentucky hold off Vandy

The Associated Press

LEXINGTON, Ky. — With Kentucky's slim lead threatened by a Vanderbilt squad that wouldn't go away, Aaron Harrison coolly stepped up to drain the clutch three-pointer that has become a familiar sight for the top-ranked Wildcats.

Twin brother Andrew Harrison provided a little more cushion with a layup a minute later before Aaron sealed Tuesday night's hard-fought 65-57 victory with two free throws that kept the Wildcats perfect on a night that featured plenty of blunders.

All of those flaws were forgotten thanks to the Harrisons' 11 combined points down the stretch, with nine coming from Aaron.

"He's as good as any player in the country the way he played in the second half," Kentucky coach John Calipari said of his sophomore guard.

Aaron Harrison, whose clutch three's earned Kentucky three straight NCAA tournament wins last spring, finished with 14 points, all in the second half. Andrew Harrison added five points as Kentucky (18-0, 5-0 Southeastern Conference) survived its third tight game in five league contests.

"I just wanted to do everything I could to help the team win," said Aaron Harrison, who made four of seven from the field including

two threes. "I knew I had to get my energy together and I did in the second half, which helped me play better."

Kentucky needed that resolve to put away Vanderbilt (11-7, 1-4).

The Wildcats didn't lead by double digits until early in the second half.

"I thought we did some good things," Vanderbilt coach Kevin Stallings said. "We just didn't do quite enough. There's really no consolation in doing some good things and not do enough to win. I thought we rebounded for the most part fairly effectively."

**No. 6 Wisconsin 82, No. 25 Iowa 50:** Frank Kaminsky had 13 points and 11 rebounds, and host Wisconsin relied on tough defense to rout Iowa.

San Dekker added 17 points and eight boards for the Badgers (17-2, 5-1 Big Ten), who won their second straight since losing starting point guard Traevon Jackson to a foot injury.

**No. 9 Iowa State 77, Kansas State 71:** Monte Morris led a floater with 37 seconds left and host Iowa State held off Kansas State, moving into a tie for first place in the Big 12.

Jameel McKay had 15 points off the bench for the Cyclones (14-3, 4-1), who joined No. 11 Kansas atop the league. Iowa State beat Kansas in Ames 86-81 on Saturday.

**Davidson 77, No. 22 Dayton 60:** Fresh-



Davidson's Tyler Kalinoski, left, celebrates his team's 77-60 upset win over No. 22 Dayton with teammate Jordan Barham.

man Peyton Aldridge had 22 points and senior Tyler Kalinoski added 21, and the sharp-shooting host Wildcats earned their first win over a ranked opponent this season.

Davidson was 12-for-23 from three-point range, helping to erase a 26-point loss to Richmond three days earlier.

**San Diego State 77, Air Force 45:** Ageel Quinn hit five three-pointers and finished with 17 points to lead San Diego State.

DeLovel Eanls scored eight points off the bench to lead Air Force (8-10, 1-6). The Falcons were outrebounded 33-19.

## SPORTS BRIEFS/NFL

## Briefly

## Aoki brings humor, personality to Giants

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Nori Aoki is offering a bold challenge to World Series MVP Madison Bumgarner, one of his new San Francisco Giants teammates.

"I've heard that Madison likes to wrestle. I think I'm going to initiate the wrestling," the left fielder joked Tuesday.

Aoki brings more than just a big personality and sense of humor to the World Series champions.



Aoki

Bruce Bochy is projecting him as the team's starting left fielder, while noting Aoki's versatility allows him to fill in for Angel Pagan in center field and Hunter Pence in right as needed. Pagan will begin spring training next month as the leadoff hitter and another job Aoki can handle with his speed and ability to steal bases.

Aoki finalized his \$4.7 million, one-year contract Monday and was formally introduced a day later at AT&T Park. Both sides appear hopeful he could stick around beyond this season.

Bachy figures Aoki might reach outside the wrestling match once he lines up next to the 6-foot-5, 235-pound Bumgarner.

Aoki played last season with Kansas City, which lost the World Series to the Giants in seven games.

"I've always liked the city of San Francisco but not only that I've always had admiration for the Giants and the history they've had," Aoki said. "Having played against them the last three years, they played together as a team. They have a team that has a chance to play for a championship each year."

Aoki, 33, receives a \$4 million base salary this year, and the Giants have a \$5.5 million option for 2016 with a \$700,000 buyout. The option would become mutual if Aoki has 550 plate appearances this year, and he would receive the buyout if he exercises the option and the team declines.

Aoki can earn an additional \$1.5 million in performance bonuses each year based on plate appearances: \$100,000 each for 400, 425, 450, 475 and 500; and \$250,000 apiece for 525, 550, 575 and 600. The team will release him at the end of the contract, making him a free agent again.

Aoki hit .285 with a home run, six triples, 22 doubles and 43 RBIs over 132 games in his lone season with the Royals after two in Milwaukee. He also stole 17 bases.

Other baseball news:

■ Outfielder Colby Rasmus has agreed to an \$8 million, one-

year contract with the Houston Astros.

The deal was announced Tuesday, a day after Houston ended last year's starting center fielder, Dexter Fowler, to the Chicago Cubs.

The 28-year-old Rasmus started 80 games in center field for the Toronto Blue Jays last season and has played both right and left field in his six-year big league career. He batted .225 with 18 homers and 40 RBIs last season after hitting 22 home runs with 66 RBIs in 2013.

## Boxer Taylor pleads not guilty to charges

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Boxing champion Jermain Taylor is free after he pleaded not guilty to pointing a gun at a man's head and threatened to shoot three small children at an Arkansas parade.

Pulaski County Sheriff's Capt. Carl Minden said Wednesday that Taylor needs to surrender after his bond was revoked in an earlier firearms case. Minden said if Taylor doesn't surrender, deputies will "go get him."

Taylor was arraigned Tuesday on charges of aggravated assault, endangering the welfare of a minor and marijuana possession. He was released on \$50,000 bond.

## Fisher fires 7-under 65 to lead Qatar by 1

DOHA, Qatar — Oliver Fisher carded eight birdies on the opening day to take a solo one-shot lead at the Qatar Masters on Wednesday.

The Englishman's only blemish in a 7-under-par 65 was when he bogeyed the 13th hole, but he edged Rafael Cabrera-Bello of Spain by one stroke on an eventful first day at Doha Golf Club.

Ernie Els and Paul Lawrie were among 11 players tied for third at 5 under.

## Cardinals lineman pledges \$1.6M to Miami

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — Calais Campbell's fallback plan for a career was to work in advertising, which he studied at the University of Miami.

Fortunately for him, football is working out just fine.

Fortunately for the Hurricanes, he's also now giving back.

The Pro Bowl defensive lineman from the Arizona Cardinals announced Wednesday that he has pledged \$1.6 million — the largest single gift ever to — the largest single gift ever to — the school with the purpose of perpetually funding a scholarship for a defensive lineman.



JACK DEMPSEY/AP

John Elway, left, Denver Broncos general manager and executive vice president of football operations, bucked the recent trend by hiring former offensive coordinator Gary Kubiak as the Broncos head coach.

Teams on the defensive  
Many recent head coach hires have like-minded roots

BY ARNIE STAPLETON

The Associated Press

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — John Elway broke the mold.

The Denver Broncos general manager bucked this year's trend when he hired his former backup QB and offensive coordinator Gary Kubiak as his head coach.

Every other head coach vacancy that's been filled has gone to men with defensive roots: John Fox in Chicago, Jack Del Rio in Oakland, Jim Tomsula in San Francisco, Rex Ryan in Buffalo and Todd Bowles with the Jets.

Oddly, every one of those teams also had trouble on offense in 2014.

So did the Falcons, the only head coaching vacancy that hasn't been filled.

It appears that offensive coordinators Josh McDaniels of New England and Adam Gase, Peyton Manning's co-architect in Denver, will have to keep waiting as defensive coordinators Dan Quinn of Seattle and Detroit's Teryl Austin are the only candidates to get follow-up interviews with the Falcons.

If Quinn is the choice, the Falcons will have to wait to offer him the job until after Seattle plays New England in the Super Bowl on Feb. 1.

Quinn's star rose with the Seahawks' 43-8 walloping of Elway's Broncos in last year's Super Bowl, something NFL network analyst Terrell Davis believes has driven this defensive shift, along with the aerial fireworks show the league has become.

"One, you look at who won the Super Bowl last year. They've got a formula people want," Davis said. "They've got a good quarterback and their offense was good; it just wasn't as good as their defense. If you have a good defense, you can mask a lot of deficiencies on offense. And two, it really is about offenses in this league and if you can stop them."

Then again, Davis said, it could just be coincidence.

"Maybe it just happens to be the best candidates are defensive coaches," Davis said.

There's no ambiguity about it, insisted former NFL executive and current ESPN analyst Bill Polian.

"Each hire, each situation is different. That's one part of the puzzle," Polian said. "The second part is the pool of candidates is what it is. In any given

year, you might have more people who come from the offensive side of the ball as opposed to the defensive. And third, anybody that's asked for my advice, I have said, 'Hire the best person regardless of orientation.'"

The only other factor that should come into the equation is previous head coaching experience, Polian said.

That certainly burnished the resumes of Fox, Del Rio and Ryan. Fox was 49-22 in four seasons in Denver even though the Broncos came up short in the playoffs each year.

Interestingly, teams led by head coaches with offensive roots had an average rank of 16.1 in points per game this season to 16.0 for defensive coaches (excluding the Raiders, who switched mid-season from defensive to offensive). The season started with 16 offensive and 16 defensive coaches.

So, there was essentially no difference in performance on average based on the expertise of the head coach.

"Yeah, if you want to use that metric," Polian said. "When you use the word 'expertise' of the coach, would you presume that Bill Belichick knows only defense? OK, so that's my point. If you hire a good coach, he understands both sides of the

ball, how it fits, how he wants to do it, how it fits his personnel, etc. etc. We're hiring head coaches here, not coordinators."

Raiders owner Mark Davis was initially looking for an offensive-minded coach to help quarterback Derek Carr develop, something he told Del Rio in their first conversation.

"And Jack said, 'Whoa, whoa, whoa, stop! I know about offense as well,'" Davis said.

Labels don't matter when you're a head coach, Del Rio said, because if you're a "defensive guy," quickly "you become an offensive guy as well."

He pointed to the two coaches who are in the Super Bowl.

"Bill Belichick was a defensive guy and he's doing a pretty good job with his offense," Del Rio said.

"Pete Carroll is a defensive guy in his background, but he's doing a pretty good job up there in Seattle with their offense and with their team. So, I think when you hire a head coach, you get that — you get a head coach."

AP Sports Writers Josh Dubow, John Wawrow and Janie McCauley contributed.

## NFL PLAYOFFS

# Probe: Social media erupts with cheating accusations

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The Patriots, who beat the Indianapolis Colts 45-7 for the AFC title, said they were cooperating with the league, and a Seahawks spokesman said the team would defer to the league on the matter.

The NFL began looking into the issue not only because doctored the footballs could provide a competitive advantage, but because it would compromise the integrity of the game.

Deflating a football can change the way it's gripped by a player or the way it travels through the air. Under NFL rules, each team provides balls each game for use when its offense is on the field. The balls are inspected before the game by the officiating crew, then handled during the game by personnel provided by the home team.

Social media responses were quick late Tuesday night and into Wednesday morning.

**“My belief is that there should be a minimum air-pressure requirement but not a maximum. There's no advantage in my opinion.”**

**Aaron Rodgers**  
Packers QB

“11 of 12 balls under-inflated can anyone spell cheating!!! #Just Saying” was the tweet from Hall of Fame receiver Jerry Rice.

“So we get to play the game again or nah? ??” tweeted Colts cornerback Darius Butler.

Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers said on ESPN radio in Milwaukee that he didn't like how referees who

inspected balls before games take air out of the game balls.

“I have a major problem with the way it goes down, to be honest with you,” Rodgers said. “The majority of the time, they take air out of the football. That, for me, is a disadvantage.”

“My belief is that there should be a minimum air-pressure requirement but not a maximum,” Rodgers said. “There's no advantage in my opinion. We're not kicking the football. There's no advantage in having a pumped-up football.”

Patriots quarterback Tom Brady said the investigation was the least of his worries. And tight end Rob Gronkowski tweeted a photo of himself spiking the ball with the words: “WARNING GRONKING MAY CAUSE DEFLATION.”

Patriots coach Bill Belichick on Tuesday deferred questions about the investigation, saying reporters should ask league officials. Belichick earlier said he wasn't aware there was an issue until Monday, and promised to “cooperate fully with whatever the league wants us to, whatever questions they ask.”

Belichick, of course, was fined \$500,000 in 2007 for having an assistant spy on the New York Jets' defensive signals.

Colts coach Chuck Pagano said he did not notice issues with the football and didn't specify when asked whether the Colts had reported the issue to officials.

“We talk just like they talk to officials (before the game),” he said. “We have an opportunity to talk to the officials about a lot of things.”



JEFF CHIU/AP

Green Bay's Sam Shields, left, intercepts a pass intended for Seattle's Jermaine Kearse during the first half of the NFC Championship game Sunday in Seattle. Kearse caught only one pass in the game, but it was the game-winner in overtime.

# There when it counted

## Kearse's only catch sent Seahawks to Super Bowl

By TIM BOOTH  
The Associated Press

RENTON, Wash. — Jermaine Kearse was having an NFC championship game to forget.

The first two times Kearse even got his fingers on a pass from Seattle quarterback Russell Wilson, the ball ended up in the hands of a Green Bay defensive back. Those two deflected interceptions were sandwiched around two other attempted passes from Wilson to Kearse that were also picked off.

Four targets. Four interceptions. Four miserable moments for Kearse and the Seahawks.

“I just told myself not to feel sorry for myself, to keep pushing through,” Kearse said. “Things aren't always going to be perfect, things aren't always going to go your way, but it tells a lot about a person's character on how they respond when things aren't going well. Things are easy when things are going well, but how do you respond when they're not?”

Kearse's response was a moment that will be remembered in Seattle Seahawks history in the same regard as Richard Sherman's deflection in the NFC championship game against San Francisco a year earlier. In the same end zone as Sherman's



DEAN RUTZ, SEATTLE TIMES/TNS

Seattle wide receiver Jermaine Kearse celebrates after making the 35-yard touchdown catch that won the game.

play, Kearse caught Wilson's 35-yard TD toss 3:19 into overtime to send Seattle to its second straight Super Bowl.

Wilson noticed Green Bay with all of its defenders near the line of scrimmage and no safety covering the middle of the field. He made a check with Kearse, who also noticed the coverage. Kearse's job was simply to catch cornerback Tramont Williams to the inside, keep position to the post and wait for Wilson's pass to arrive.

“I've seen him make so many plays before. When you see a guy that makes so many plays in practice, so many plays throughout big-time games, NFC championship game last year — Doug Baldwin, too, you just continue to trust those guys,” Wilson said. “They show me every day in practice and so when somebody messes up or I mess up or don't throw the ball right, whatever happens, I'm just going to keep coming back to them.”

Two of the four interceptions that were intended for Kearse were Wilson's fault. He underthrew Kearse on a deep pass into double coverage early in the second quarter and later was short with a throw to the front corner of the end zone. Seattle coach Pete Carroll said he believed Wilson misjudged the wind on both of the under-thrown passes.

But the other two interceptions hit Kearse in the hands. The most costly — it appeared — was the pass that was deflected to Green Bay safety Morgan Burnett with 5:04 left and Green Bay holding a 19-7 lead. Kearse couldn't even get to all the negative reactions on Twitter from the first four quarters. There was too much praise for his one catch of the day.

“I couldn't even get to the bad stuff,” Kearse said. “I don't worry about all that stuff — it just comes down to us as a team.”



## SPORTS



## Rolling Thunder

Oklahoma City beats Miami, finally climbs above .500 » **NBA, Page 29**

## NFL PLAYOFFS

# Deflate-Gate?

## Probe continues into whether Patriots under-inflated footballs

By **BARRY WILNER**  
The Associated Press

**T**he NFL says its investigation into whether the New England Patriots used under-inflated footballs in the AFC championship game is ongoing after a report late Tuesday claimed the league found 11 balls were not properly inflated.

Troy Vincent, the NFL executive vice president for football operations, told The Associated Press the "investigation is underway and we're still awaiting findings."

Vincent was responding to an ESPN report that cited anonymous league sources saying 11 of the Patriots' 12 allotted game footballs were under-inflated by 2 pounds per square inch of air. ESPN did not say how that occurred.

Vincent said earlier Tuesday he expected the probe to be concluded by the end of the week. The last thing the NFL wants after a difficult season off the field is a potential cheating scandal that disrupts Super Bowl week. New England faces the Seattle Seahawks on Feb. 1 in Glendale, Ariz.

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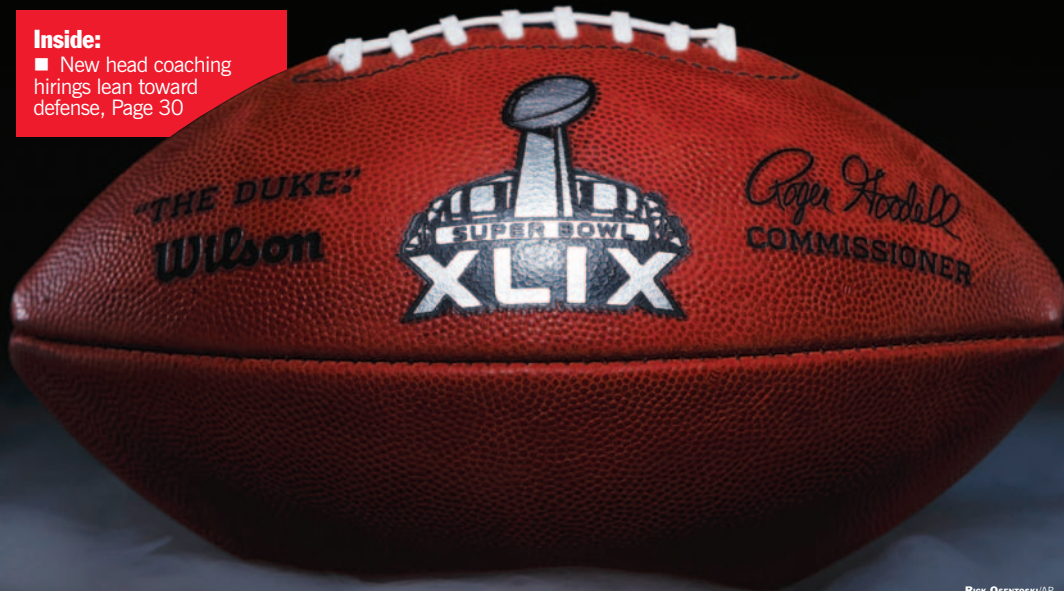


RICK OSENTOSKI/AP

Official game balls for Super Bowl XLIX wait to be laced Tuesday at the Wilson Sporting Goods Co., in Ada, Ohio. The New England Patriots are accused of under-inflating the game balls they used to beat Indianapolis 45-7 in the AFC championship game on Sunday.

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RICK OSENTOSKI/AP

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